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Kettering Charities.

By

Fredk. Wm. Bull.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

Kettering:
Northamptonshire Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd.
1908.

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KETTERING CHARITIES.

(Reprinted from the *Kettering Leader.*)

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INTRODUCTORY.

The Charities of Kettering are both numerous and in many cases important, and an account of them, based as far as possible on original documents and authentic sources of information, will, it is hoped, therefore, not be uninteresting. To gather the facts given in the following columns has not been an easy task, and it has been necessary to trespass largely on the kindness of those who had not only the power but also the willingness to give the required information. Thanks are specially due to the Rector and his Churchwardens for access to parish records and documents; to Messrs. Lamb and Stringer for very much important information; to Mr. Charles Wise for interesting items from his "Glimpses of Kettering"; to Mr. E. P. Toller and Mr. C. A. Percival for particulars as to Toller Charities; to Messrs. Burnham Son and Lewin and Mr. D. F. Gotch for notes as to Fuller Charities; to Rev. R. M. Serjeantson, F.S.A., and to Mr. John Bond for various items.

To facilitate reference the charities have been placed in alphabetic order.

F. W. B.

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Kettering Charities.

Anne Aldwinkle's Charity.

Anne Aldwinkle, of Kettering, Widow, on 19th November, 1792, made a Codicil to her Will, in which the following bequest appears:—

"There is in the 5 per cents in my name in the Stocks out of which I give to the Parish of Kettering thirty pounds per ann to be made over to the Minister and Churchwardens for the time being after ye death of the Revd. Dr. Bridges for them to distribute the same in manner and form following to the six poor women at ye Hospital 40s. a piece a year to be paid twice a year for ever I give to the Workhouse at Kettering 50s a year for a person to go twice a week to read and pray with the poor people there but if such a custom cannot be kept up then that 50s. a year to ye Sunday School I give 30s a year out of this money for to buy good books for the poor people that come to Church I also give out of this thirty pounds per annum to Mary Northern during her life and five pounds a year at her death to ye poor people of Kettering with ye remainder of ye thirty pounds a year to old poor people at Xmas for ever It is my desire that the Revd. Dr. Bridges will be so kind to distribute the money as he thinks proper during his life or is desirous to give up the trouble to the Minister and Churchwardens and I think the remainder of the money not particular mentd be given to poor people in linnen."

The Executors of Mrs. Aldwinkle's Will were her cousins, the Revd. Brook Bridges the Elder, of Daubney, Essex, and the Reverend Nathaniel Bridges, then of Wadenhoe, Northants.

Mrs. Aldwinkle died on 9th March, 1793, and under date 22nd October, 1793, there is a curious record of how Nathaniel Bridges, Doctor in Divinity, frequently visited the Testatrix at her dwelling-house at Kettering during her lifetime, and of how she had often discoursed with him as to the places where she had deposited her will and other papers, which were enclosed in a little Trunk constantly kept in her bedroom, and of how, on the day of her death, he attended at her dwelling and received from Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, who lived with her as companion, the little Trunk aforesaid, with the key, and found therein three papers purporting to be codicils to her will, and of which the Codicil affecting Kettering was one.

The Will was eventually proved with four codicils in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 2nd November, 1793, by Rev. Nathaniel Bridges.

The sum of £600 Navy five per cents was appropriated to answer the Kettering bequest, and the substituted stock, £630 new three and a half per cents, stood in the name of Dr. Nathaniel Bridges (then of Clifton, near Bristol) in 1830. The dividends were then transmitted by him to his Agent at Kettering, and the sum of £12 was divided equally among the inmates of Sawyer's Hospital; £2 10s. 0d. was paid to the Master of the Workhouse, who read prayers twice a week to the poor there; £1 10s. 0d. was laid out in Bibles and religious books, which were distributed among the poor of the Parish; and the remainder was distributed by the Agent at Christmas among such poor persons as he selected.

The capital moneys have never been transferred to the Minister and Churchwardens as directed by the Will, and at the Inquiry in June, 1893, the Commissioner stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Nathaniel Bridges, of Red Lion Square, London, from

which it appeared that the Executors of the Rev. Dr. Bridges in December, 1834, sold out the £630 stock above referred to for £627 7s. 0d., which was brought to the general credit of the estate, which was afterwards wound up. Mr. Bridges went on to say that he did not find any investment to represent that amount, and although he could not say what the legal liability might be, he should be sorry that through any omission of those who went before him any serious loss should accrue to the charity. He then added that if a scheme could be arranged for the future dealing with the Charity he would provide such a sum as would produce an income amounting to £16 10s. 0d., £12 of which was to be paid to the inmates of Sawyer's Hospital; £2 10s. 0d. for prayers at the Workhouse; and £1 10s. for Bibles and religious books.

It also transpired at the Inquiry that for many years prior to 1890 £21 per annum had been paid on account of the Charity, and for the three preceding years £12 for the Hospital Inmates.

In accordance with Mr. Bridges' suggestion a draft Scheme for the administration of the Charity was prepared in June, 1894. The Scheme provided that on payment by the family of the Founder of the Charity of a sum of £660 2½ per cent. Annuities to the Official Trustee of Charity Funds in trust for the Charity that sum should be accepted in discharge of all claims in respect of the endowment bequeathed by the Founder. That the Charity should be administered by the Rector and Churchwardens for the time being of the Parish of Kettering. That 2-15th parts of the net income should be applied in awarding books or other prizes to meritorious children, bona fide resident in Kettering, who attended a Church of England Sunday School. That a yearly sum of not less than £12 should be paid and divided equally between the inmates of Sawyer's Hospital, or in lieu of paying the whole amount in money the same or a portion of it might be expended for the benefit of any inmate. That the residue of the income should be applied either for the benefit of the poor

of the Parish of Kettering or of deserving and necessitous persons therein. That the amount and conditions of any payment might be varied from time to time by the Trustees, with the sanction of the Charity Commissioners.

The payment of £12 per annum was continued for some years, but although the draft Scheme was approved by the Rector and Churchwardens, it was never carried through, and since the death of Mr. Nathaniel Bridges within the last three years or so no payment whatever has been made, nor has a settlement of the matter yet been arrived at.

In 1789, says the Charity Commissioners' Report, Mrs. Anne Aldwinckle gave £50 for the benefit of the children attending the Sunday Schools at Kettering. It was deposited by her with the Rev. Joseph Knight, then Rector of Kettering, who signed a promissory note for the amount, dated 6th January, 1789, on the back of which note a memorandum was written declaring Mrs. Aldwinckle's intention that the interest of the £50 should be applied for the purposes above mentioned, at the discretion of Mr. Knight and Mr. John Adams, of Kettering.

Mr. Knight, during his lifetime, paid £2 10s. 0d. a year as interest; and after his death it appears the £50 was paid to Mr. Adams, who paid the interest thereon till his death in 1812.

Mr. Adams' executors were his son-in-law, the Rev. George Brigg, and his son, Mr. John Adams. On settling the Testator's affairs the £50 was left as a debt to be paid by Mr. Adams, but no interest was paid by him, and he questioned his liability, suggesting that the £2 10s. 0d. a year paid by his father might have been a voluntary gift or subscription.

The Commissioners considered, however, that there was little reason to doubt that the principal and interest were justly due from Mr. John Adams; but, considering the length of the time elapsed—probably some 20 years—since interest was paid, and the want of any written evidence to prove his liability, it might

be doubted whether any effectual means for recovering the money could be resorted to.

The Charity must be classified as lost.

Elizabeth Baker's Charity.

Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, the widow of Jonathan Baker, of Kettering, Ironmonger, by her will dated 16th May, 1781, gave to her brother-in-law, John Meadows, and to Ephraim Buswell, Nathaniel Collis, Thomas Nunneley, and Thos. Almond, all of Kettering, and to such other persons as should thereafter be nominated and appointed Trustees of her will, the sum of £100 upon trust, that her said Trustees should place the same out at interest upon some good landed security or in purchasing Government Security or Stocks, and should apply the interest or dividend arising from the same yearly in purchasing Bibles, Doctor Watts's Psalms and Hymns, and the Assemblys Catechisms, and distribute them amongst the poor of the Congregation of Protestant Dissenters in Kettering usually meeting for Religious Worship in the Meetinghouse commonly called the Great Meeting, and of which the Reverend Mr. Toller was the then Minister. And the Testatrix directed that in case any of her said Trustees thereby appointed should refuse to act, and also when and as often as any or either of her Trustees who should act in the Trust by that her will created should depart this life, that then the surviving and acting Trustees should meet together, and, by writing, nominate and appoint one other fit and proper person or persons to be a Trustee or Trustees, who should be of the Congregation aforementioned, to act in the place of the Trustee or Trustees refusing to act or dying.

The Testatrix also gave to her brother-in-law, Beeby Wallis, and to her friend, Nathaniel Collis, both of Kettering, and to the survivor of them, £200, to be paid them by her executors upon trust that they should either immediately

lay out the same in purchasing a dwelling-house suitable for the use of the Minister of the Congregation aforementioned, of which Mr. Toller was the then Minister, or if a house could not immediately be purchased then Testatrix directed that the same should be placed out at interest upon landed security, and the interest, as well as the principal, preserved for the purpose aforesaid, until such time as a house could be bought or built therewith, the house and premises so purchased or built to be conveyed and put into the hands of the Trustees appointed for the Great Meeting-house or their successors for the purposes aforesaid for ever.

Mrs. Baker died on the 16th and was buried on 22nd November, 1791, and the will was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Northampton by Mr. Beeby Wallis, the sole Executor, on 25th November, 1791. Her maiden name was Belcher, and she married Mr. Baker on 21st April, 1756. Her sister Martha married Beeby Wallis on 22nd October, 1761.

The £200, with accumulated interest thereon amounting to £187 9s. 6d., was applied towards the purchase money of a house in Gold-street, Kettering, in December, 1807. The total cost was £556 10s. 5½d., and the balance was raised by subscription.

The house continued to be used as a Manse till 1887, when it was sold for £1,500. Some part of this sum was applied in the enfranchisement of the Chapel and adjoining houses, and in various improvements to the Trust property, and the remainder, after being in hand some time, was in 1904 applied in the purchase of a Manse in the Broadway, Kettering.

The £100 is now lent, with other sums, on mortgage.

Elizabeth Baker's Charity.

By a deed poll dated 15th September, 1790, Beeby Wallis, of Kettering, Esquire, The Rev. Joseph Knight, Clerk, Rector of Kettering,

and John Adams, Draper; James Kempston, Draper; John Keep, Brazier; and Christopher Tomson, Grazier, all of Kettering, after reciting that Elizabeth Baker, late of Kettering, Spinster, deceased, did in her life time purchase the sum of £100 South Sea Annuities in the name of the said Beeby Wallis; And reciting that the said E. Baker some time previous to her decease delivered into the hands of the said Beeby Wallis a certain paper or writing written by her, and containing the words following:—"The Hundred Pounds that I have in Mr. Wallis's Name in the Stocks I desire he will as soon as he can after my Decease Settle in such a manner that the interest of it may every year be laid out in Bread and given away in Threepenny Loaves to all those poor Women that shall be at Church on Sunday Mornings and to none but those who are at Church to be sent to none that are absent the Clerk to have one for giving them away. Perhaps about Sixteen Loaves may be sufficient for all that are there but if so many are not wanted the remainder may be returned to the Baker that sends them in and if a greater number are wanted the Clerk may give Tickets to all that are there above that number to go to the Baker for them and if they find the Number increases more may be sent to the Church to be ready To begin about a month before Christmas and continue till the whole money is expended which will be a longer or shorter term according to the numbers that shall be for them." And reciting that the said E. Baker, some time after delivering the said paper to the said B. Wallis, purchased the further sum of £50 in the South Sea Annuities in his name, and requested him to settle the last mentioned Annuities upon the same trusts as the others. And reciting that the said B. Wallis had transferred the said sums of £100 and £50 stock unto the said J. Knight, J. Adams, J. Kempston, J. Keep, and C. Tomson jointly with himself. It was witnessed that the said B. Wallis, J. Knight, J. Adams, J. Kempston, J. Keep, and C. Tomson did thereby declare that the said Annuities were transferred Upon trust that they, their executors, administrators, and

assigns, or their successors for the time being, should stand possessed of the same, In trust to lay out the dividends in the purchase of such Bread or Loaves as aforesaid, to be distributed by them or their successors amongst all such poor Women as should duly attend the Publick Worship and Divine service in the Parish Church of Kettering on Sunday mornings, according to the pious and charitable directions and intention of the said Elizabeth Baker, as declared by the said paper or writing. And upon further trust that when and so often as the said Trustees should be reduced to the number of two that then such two survivors should transfer the said Annuities to such other new Trustees to be chosen by such survivors of them as with the surviving Trustees should make up the number of four.

Fresh Trustees were appointed in 1816 and again in 1842. In 1893 Mr. J. J. Roughton was the sole surviving Trustee.

The trust fund now consists of £166 14s. 9d. Consols, and the dividends, amounting to £4 3s. 4d. per annum, are applied in the purchase of Bread, which is distributed by the Churchwardens among poor Churchwomen.

Martha Baker's Charity.

Martha Baker, of Kettering, Spinster, by her will dated the 19th March, 1782, gave "a hundred pound joynt stock in the South Sea Annuities" to "the Revd. Mr. Brook Bridges of Orlingbury in trust for the use of the Charity School in Kettering." And the Testatrix also further willed and desired that her executors should purchase as soon as conveniently might be "two hundred pound more joynt Stock in the Old South Sea Annuities and the interest arising to be given by the Minister and Churchwardens for the time being to the Poor Women at the Hospital at Kettering in equal parts half yearly." The Testatrix then appointed her sister, Elizabeth Baker, and Beeby Wallis,

of Kettering, Gentleman, executors of her will, which was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Northampton on the 23rd July, 1782.

The gift to the Charity School is dealt with in the account of that Charity.

As to the bequest to the Hospital. By a Deed Poll dated 19th November, 1783, Elizabeth Baker, of Kettering, Spinster, and Beeby Wallis, of Kettering, Gentleman, the Executors of the Will of Martha Baker, then late of Kettering, Spinster, deceased, The Rev. Joseph Knight, Clerk, Rector of the Rectory and Parish of Kettering; John Adams, Draper; James Weltden Roberts, Gentleman; John Goodfellow, Plumber; John Keep, Brazier; and William Tomlinson, Currier, all of Kettering, After reciting the Will of Martha Baker, and that the said Elizabeth Baker and Beeby Wallis had, since her decease, purchased the sum of £200 South Sea Annuities, which was then standing in the names of the parties to the Deed, some or one of them, Declared that the said sum of £200 Annuities was purchased and standing in their names upon the trusts thereinafter mentioned, that was to say, Upon trust that they, the said Trustees, or the survivors or survivor of them, or the executors or administrators of such survivor, should stand and be possessed of the same In trust to pay and apply the Dividends of the said sum of £200 South Sea Annuitys into the hands of the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Kettering for the time being, to be by them paid, applied, distributed, and divided into between and amongst such six poor widows who for the time being should be inhabitants of or residing in a certain Hospital in Kettering of the foundation of Edmund Sawyer, theretofore of Kettering, Esquire, equally share and share alike, pursuant to the directions and pious intention of the said Testatrix. And upon further trust that when, and as soon and often as the said Trustees should be reduced to Three, that then such three survivors should transfer the said annuities to such other new Trustees to be nominated and chosen by such survivors of them as, with the surviving Trustees, should make up the number of eight

or more, and so toties quoties to the intent that there might be a perpetual succession of fit and proper persons to manage and overlook the Charity.

Fresh Trustees were appointed in 1816 and again on the 18th October, 1842. Mr. J. J. Roughton was in 1893 the sole surviving Trustee.

The trust fund now consist of £222 6s. 4d. Consols, and the dividends, amounting to £5 11s. 0d. per annum, are duly divided between the six inmates of Sawyer's Hospital.

Bentham's Charity.

The founder of this Charity was the Reverend Joseph Bentham, Rector of Broughton. He became Rector of that place on 14th January, 1631, but his living, which was worth £140 per annum, was sequestrated on 13th July, 1643. "Although he was an Infirm Man he was forced to ly abroad in Haycocks to avoid the much worse Accommodation of a Dungeon, in which several of his good Neighbours then lay. His Wife and Five Children were also turned out of doors. . . . . Mr. Bentham after his Sequestration liv'd at Nether-Winchen in Buckinghamshire, where he had a little School, and by some means or other was suffered to serve a small Cure. September 29, 1660, he was restored to his Living. . . . He was a learned Man, and a constant painful Preacher. He hath published a Treatise of the 'Blessed Trinity'; another Entitled 'The Society of Saints'; a Third Entitled 'The Christian Conflict'; as also a little Piece directed to his Neighbours concerning their hard Usage of him."—Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, 1714. He died on 16th April, 1671.

His will, made on the 3rd May, 1670, and proved on the 4th May, 1671, is in the Northampton Registry, but is not in very good condition.

The following extracts are the only ones relating to annuities given by him:—

"I give my land at Overstone alias Overson wyth the houses and all commodities belonging to them to my two sonnes Joseph Bentham and Samuel . . . whom I make myne Executors of this my last Will and testament to pay wyth it all my debts legacies funerall expences and other dues I have charged or shall . . part of it wythall as ten shillings per annum to the poore of that as God willing writings herafter will shewe as some already doe to other places.

"I seeing Churchwardens carelesse to take and distribute my small annuities given to these poore I have given for ever as a thankfull remembrance . . . upon the 29 day of May part of whych I have charged an halfe yard at Broughton with namely fifty shillings per annum I do . . . to my sonne Joseph and his heires for ever provided they pay what the land is charged at in tyme and place and be carefull that . . . per annum bee payd to the poore of Broughton ten shillings to be payd at Overstone and to enquire as they conveniently may and . . . payd to the poore of Egginton for whych land is given in the same towne."

The paper of the will being worn away at the right side, there are gaps in the sentences, and one or two words are uncertain, but it is clear that there is no specific reference to Kettering therein, and that the Testator, so far as he could, granted small annuities, secured on various lands, to divers parishes by deed in his lifetime. This is no doubt the course he pursued with regard to Kettering, to which place he gave a sum of 10s. annually, to be laid out in Bread, and disposed of by the Minister and Churchwardens on the 29th day of May amongst such poor people as should come to Church that day, although the brass tablet in the Church states that the sum was given by his will.

In a tablet in Broughton Church, on which his benefaction to Broughton is recorded, it is stated that it was made "In testification of his joy and gladness for the return of King Charles

to his Crown and Dignity," and one can quite believe the occurrence of this event, which meant the termination of his trials and tribulations, was not likely to be forgotten.

In the Local Charities Report of 1818 it is stated that there is no reference to the bequest in the Parish Books, but as a matter of fact there is the following entry, which undoubtedly refers to it:—

"1717, 1718, 1719. Recd. of Bejn. Allicocke Esq. 10s. a yeare which is given away in Bread in the Churche every 29th of May."

There appears to be no other entry, and the charity has long been regarded as lost.

Benjamin Allicock was Lord of the Manor of Loddington, and had, says Bridges, a good estate and house there the place of his residence. It is possible, therefore, the 10s. may have been payable out of the Loddington Estate.

Brown's Charity.

By his will dated the 25th November, 1726, Samuel Browne, of the City of Norwich, Gent., made the following bequest:—

"Item my will and mind is that in case after all my debts funerall charges and charges of probate of this my will are all paid and satisfied there shall remain an overpluss I give and bequeath such overpluss to the poor of the town of Kettering in the County of Lincolne (sic) and townes adjoining to be distributed amongst them as my Executors shall think fitt.'

The Executors were John Langley, Gent., and Richard Humphrey, Worsted Weaver, both of the City of Norwich, and the will was proved in the Consistory Court of Norwich on the 28th December, 1726.

The only local records as to this Charity are to be found in the Parish Book, where there are the following entries:—

"January ye 28 1733. At a Vestry it was agreed that Mr. Traverse our Sollicitor have twenty pounds sent him towards carrying on the suits against Mr. Browns executors and

that Wm. Haslewood is desired to remitt him ye above sums which we doe promise to see him repaid. . . ."

"At a Vestry held at Kettering this 4th day of November 1734

"Whereas Mr. Samuel Brown late of the City of Norwich has by his last Will and Testament left a Charitable Benefaction to Kettering in Northamptonshire as is now determined by his Honour the Master of the Rolls and a Vestry being held this day to consider and agree how the same may be in the best manner applyed for the Benefit of our Poor so as not to ease the Inhabitants that pay to the Poor Rate We are Humbly of Opinion that the most proper and advisable way of disposing the said Charity money will be in Purchasing some freehold estate lying near the said Town of Kettering and to apply the Rents thereof half yearly to such poor housekeepers and inhabitants as take no collection of the said Parish And such distribution to be made by the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor for the time being and the said purchase to be made in their names and those of their Successors for ever In trust for the said Poors Use and we cannot but hope and believe that his worthy Executors will concur with us herein.

"Tho. Allen, Rector, David Soame, Humphry Althrop, Joseph Baker, George Wade."

There was a Vestry held April 8th, 1735, "for choosing Officers and settling the affairs of Mr. Brown's Benefaction," but there is no mention of what was done, nor is it known whether any land was ever purchased or any benefit derived from the bequest.

An attempt has been made to trace the Chancery proceedings referred to, but in the absence of any notes as to the names of the plaintiffs it has had to be abandoned.

Ephraim Buswell.

By his Will dated 27th January, 1801, Ephraim Buswell, of Kettering, Woolstapler, bequeathed to Nathaniel Collis, John Hennell,

William Watson, and Samuel Wallis all of Kettering, the sum of £50 in trust, to place out the same at interest, and apply the interest from time to time towards the support of the Minister and Congregation of Protestant Dissenters in Kettering, of which the Rev. Thos. Northcote Toller was the then Minister. And directed that whenever the said principal sum should be called or paid in and received, the same should be placed out on some other security in the names of the Deacons for the time being of the said Congregation, and so on for ever.

The Testator also gave to the poor of the Congregation aforesaid Nineteen guineas to be distributed amongst them by the Deacons.

Mr. Buswell died on the 30th June, 1801, and his Will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 7th August, 1801, by his wife, Hannah Buswell, and his son, Ephraim Buswell, the Executors thereof.

The £50 is, with other moneys, now lent on mortgage security.

Cave's Charity.

By his will, dated 25th January, 1617-18, and proved on 23rd February following, William Cave, of Kettering, Yeoman, gave and bequeathed "to the poore of Kettering twenty poundes of lawfull English mony."

With this sum a rent charge of 22s. per annum was purchased, the amount being charged on three doles of meadow ground.

In the Parish Book under date 6th November, 1673, is the following entry, which appears to refer to this Charity:—

"Letten to Thom. Richards 3 doles in Killingholme and Walcotts for 22s. to be paid to ye overseers for ye use of the poore and all charges to be paid by him besides for ye charge and poore and taxes."

These doles in 1693 were the property of Mary, the wife of John Richardson; while in 1721 "three doles of Meadow Ground in Barton Hide and Sparrow's Hide" were surrendered by one Thomas Page "subject to the

payment of twenty-two shillings yearly to the Overseers of the Poor of Kettering."

In the Court Rolls of 1731 is a surrender by Elizabeth Page of three doles of meadow ground lying and being within the Manor of Kettering (viz.), one dole and a half dole parcel thereof lying in a certain place called Barnes' Hyde, and one dole and one half dole residue thereof lying in a certain Hyde called Sparrows Hyde, in a place there called Killingholme and Walcutts theretofore the estate and inheritance of Thomas Page, late husband, deceased of the said Elizabeth Page, then in her possession, to William Whitlark, of Kettering, yeoman, his heirs and assigns for ever, subject, nevertheless, and charged and chargeable with the payment of two and twenty shillings of good and lawfull money of Great Brittain yearly for ever to the overseers of the poor of Kettering to the use of the poor of the said parish.

In connection with the Kettering Inclosure, George Whitlark, in his claim dated 14th May, 1804, stated that he was entitled "to three doles of meadow ground, subject to the payment of 22s. a year to the poor." At the same time the Minister and Churchwardens claimed "three doles of meadow, in Killingholme and Walcotts, rented by Mr. Whitlark."

By the Inclosure Award of the 23rd November, 1805, two allotments were made to George Whitlark, one of 4a. 3r. 25p. in Wadcroft and the other of 78a. 1r. 16p. in the Nether Field. The last named allotment, which was presumably liable to the Charge, was bounded on the North West by the Wellingborough-road and an allotment to the Duchess of Buccleuch, on the North by the same allotment, on the North East by allotments to Thomas Marshall and the Duchess of Buccleuch and (being an irregular boundary) by the Lordship of Barton Seagrave, on the South East by the same allotment to the Duchess of Buccleuch, on the South by the same allotment and (being an irregular boundary) by the Lordship of Pytchley, on the South West by an allotment to William Green, and on the West by the same allotment to the Duchess of Buccleuch and William Green respectively.

The premises eventually passed into the hands of the late Rev. James Sutton, and the annual charge is now paid by Mr. J. B. Sutton to the Trustees of Dawson's Charity, who distribute it in doles in January with that of other Charities.

Church and Town Allotments.

CATER AND PACK'S CHARITY.

In the old Parish Book is the following entry relating to this Charity:—

"Decemb: 16: 1686 wee whose names are underwritten being chose by the Inhabitats of Kettering feffees for £60 the poore have received of Samuel Backer fifty pound which was given by James Cater and Ten Pound by John Jorden given by Alderman Pack and is layd out by the consent of the town to purchase five doles and a halfe of meddow ground lieing in Killinghome and Walcots the rent of which wee promise to receive and pay for ye reliefe of ye poore according to ye intent of ye Donors which was to put forth poor children to trades. —Abraham Sparrow. John Meadows."

In November, 1687, the doles were let, and on the 8th November, 1688, also. In the latter year two doles in fishers hide were let to Sam Cheatter for 24s.; two to Thos. Eady for 24s.; and the remaining one and a half to Sam. Palmer for 18s.

Records of the lettings were duly made for many years.

At a Court held on the 13th October, 1691, there was a surrender by Thomas Webbe of 5½ doles of grass land lying in Killingholme and Walcotes, "ye second and third doles in ffishers hide ye fifth and sixth doles lyeing in hackcourt two doles being ye eight and ninth lyeing in Sparrows hide to ye use of Henry Sayer Esqr John Meadows jun and Abraham Sparrow and their heirs in trust for ye poor of Kettering"* These were no doubt the doles referred to in the Parish Book.

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* C. Wise's "Glimpses of Kettering," 36th Series.

EMMERTON'S OR LADD'S HOLME.

In the Parish Book is the following entry:—

"Nov. 6 1673. Imps. Letten to Will Chapman the ffore leys of Emerton's holme which belongs to ye poore for four pounds 4sh. which sayd rent is to be payd to ye oversears of the poor at Michmas to bee disposed of by ye oversears & ye trustees ffore ye puting out of poore peopeales children aquording to ye serender."

The land is stated by the Committee appointed to inquire into the Public Charities in 1816 to have been purchased of one William Ladds, but from what funds or in what year the Committee could not ascertain. The old brass tablet of Charities states, however, that the rent of Emmerton's Holme was given by John Pettifer. (Vide Pettifer's Dole.)

The Inclosure Claim of the Minister and Churchwardens is for "Lad's Holme, for putting out apprentices 3a. 1r. 37p."

BROOMHILL CLOSE OR SMOCKSKIRTS.

"This was land purchased in 1752, for £28, being a forfeiture for driving distempered cattle through the town contrary to Act of Parliament, the rent to be distributed amongst the Poor not receiving collection at Christmas Eve."†

The land was let in 1753, and in the old Parish Book, under date 14th November, 1754, is the following entry:—"Then let . . . Smockskirts for three years the rent to commence from Michs. last viz. Michs. 1754 and to be paid half yearly the first half yearly payment to be made when Mr. Hunt's money is next gave away about Lady day next. Lett to Jos: Wright at 1:11:0 pr year."

At the time of the Inclosure the properties of the foregoing three Charities, and also certain grass lands, the rent of which was used for Church repairs, became blended, as in their claim of 14th May, 1804, the Minister and Churchwardens claimed for the following lands,

† Report of Committee, 1818.

viz.: Grass between the town headlands‡ for repairing the Church, 4a. 1r. ½p.; Lads Holme, for putting out apprentices, 3a. 1r. 37p.; Six and a half doles of meadow in Killingholme, Walcotts, and Smockskirts, to be given to the poor, 3a. 3p.

By the Inclosure Award of 23rd November, 1805, out of four allotments made to the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers in satisfaction for all the lands, rights of common, and other rights and interests of the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering in the lands directed to be inclosed, were two allotments of 8a. 1r. 30p. and 8a. 16p. in the Middle Field, near the old Windmill, the first being bounded on the North by an allotment to Abraham Mee and on the East, South, and West by allotments to the Rector, and the other bounded on the North and East by an allotment to William Tomlinson, on the South by an allotment to the Rector, and on the West by allotments to Abraham Mee and Samuel Munn.

Following upon the Inclosure, questions arose as to the proper apportionment of the income of the lands awarded in view of the divergent purposes to which it had to be applied, and in view also of a claim by the proprietors at large in respect of the balks§ which appear to have been erroneously regarded as the property of the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers by the Inclosure Commissioners.

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‡ Those parts of the Headlands which lay on each side of a cartway which passed along the middle were let every three years at a Town's Meeting, to be ploughed or occupied in tillage, and the rents received paid to the Churchwardens, and applied by them with and for the same purpose as the Church Rate. The Headlands were also claimed by the Fieldsmen.

§ A balk was a strip of unploughed land wide enough for the passage of a waggon, and served as roads from one part of the field to another. The herbage on them was let and the proceeds paid to the fieldsmen.

At length, after considerable discussion and disputes, the proprietors gave up their claim, and the following proportions suggested by the Committee as to Charities appointed in 1816 were adopted, and have since been acted upon, viz.:—

To the Churchwardens for the service of the Church 12/43ds
To the Overseers for Apprentices 26/43ds
To the Churchwardens and Overseers for the Poor 5/43ds

The land is let in allotments, and the total rental is about £66 1s. 10d.

A plot of land at the South end of Barnwell Street has been purchased with a view to forming an entrance to the Allotments in case of their development as a Building Estate.

On 17th January, 1896, a Scheme for the portion of the rents relating to Apprentices, 26/43rds, was sealed by the Charity Commissioners whereby, failing applications for apprentice premiums, the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering, as the Trustees of the Charity, might apply the income thereof in the maintenance of Exhibitions, each of a yearly value not exceeding £10, tenable at any institution of education higher than elementary, or of technical, professional, or industrial instruction approved by the trustees, and to be awarded for a period of not more than two years (which might be extended to four) to children who are bona fide resident in the Parish of Kettering, who in every case have attended a Public Elementary School for not less than six years, and have reached a standard higher than the standard for total exemption from school attendance fixed by the bye-laws in force for the time being. It was also provided that not more than half the income might be applied in the award of Exhibitions of a yearly value not exceeding £10, to be competed for by Pupil Teachers in any Public Elementary School who were children of persons bona fide resident in the Parish, and to be tenable for not more than three years at any Training College recognised by the Board of Education.

The proportion devoted to the poor is credited to Hunt's Charity, and the Kettering Trustees of that Charity distribute the amount in doles annually in January, together with the monies derived from Hunt's, Cave's, Dawson's, and Edey's Charities.

Nathaniel Collis.

In his lifetime Nathaniel Collis, of Kettering, Stationer, had certain copyhold houses near Bakehouse Hill, Kettering, surrendered on 4th June, 1805, to Elizabeth Humphreys for life, and on her decease upon the trusts declared as to the same by his will, and, failing the declaration of any such trusts, then upon trust for the Trustees of the Great Meeting.

Mr. Collis did not deal with the property in his will,‖ and on the death of the life tenant there was, therefore, a Declaration of Trust prepared, dated the 11th April, 1849, whereby the Trustees of the Meeting acknowledged that they held the premises for the general purposes of the Congregation, and to be dealt with as the major portion of them should declare at a meeting duly convened and held as therein specified.

The property is now represented by the shops occupied by Messrs. Mudd and Shatford, situate immediately to the South West of the Chapel premises.

Jane Curchin's Charity.

By her will, dated the 4th day of December 1897, Jane Curchin, of Kettering, Widow, made the following bequest:—

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Independent Congregational Chapel Kettering

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‖ The will was dated 10th February, 1813, and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 3rd June following.

aforesaid commonly called 'Toller Chapel' the sum of Two hundred pounds upon trust that they invest the same upon Government or real or leasehold security in England or in Railway or Gas Stocks or Debentures with liberty from time to time to vary such investments and to stand possessed of the said legacy and the investments thereof for the time being in trust to pay the income thereof or to apply the same for the benefit of the poor and needy connected with the said Chapel being either Communicants or otherwise such annual income to be distributed in one or more of the following ways namely:—In money Coal Flannel or Calico And I desire the said charitable bequest to be called 'Mrs. Curchin's Bequest' And I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer of the aforesaid Chapel shall be a sufficient Discharge for the said legacy and that it shall be paid exclusively out of such part of my personal estate as may be legally bequeathed for charitable purposes."

The Testatrix died on the 19th December, 1899, aud was buried at Kettering. Her will, with two codicils, was proved in the Principal Registry on 9th March, 1900, by Henry Worters Church, of Kettering, Draper, and Alfred Gurney, of Northampton, Draper's Assistant, the executors and trustees thereof. The personalty was, however, insufficient to pay the bequest in full, and £156 15s. 0d. was all that was received. It is duly invested, and the income applied in accordance with the trust.

Thomas Dash's Charity.

Thomas Dash. of Kettering, Bookseller, by his will, dated 13th January, 1841, made the following bequests:—

"I give and bequeath to Samuel Munn, George Issitt, Richard Waddington, and John Tingle all of Kettering aforesaid the present deacons of the Independent Meeting House at Kettering aforesaid of which the said Thomas Toller is at present minister or to such persons

as shall be the deacons of the said Meeting-house at the time of my decease the sum of £100 upon trust to place out and invest the same in the Government Funds of Great Britain and stand possessed of the same legacy and of the stocks and funds on which the same shall be invested Upon trust as often as shall be required to transfer the same into the names of such persons as shall from time to time be the deacons of the said Meeting-house for ever. And upon further trust that the said trustees or trustee for the time being do and shall apply and dispose of the dividends and interest of the stocks or funds in which the last mentioned legacy shall be invested in the purchase of good wholesome meat to be by them distributed in the month of January in every year amongst the honest and industrious poor inhabitants of Kettering in aid of Mr. Nunneley's Charity."

"And I give and bequeath to the Rector and Churchwardens for the time being of the Parish of Kettering aforesaid the sum of £50 Upon trust to lay out and invest the same in the Government Funds of Great Britain and pay and apply the dividends and interest thereof yearly and every year for ever in aid and support of the Sunday Schools at Kettering aforesaid in connection with the Established Church."

Mr. Dash died on the 9th February, 1841, and his will was proved in the Principal Registry on the 28th September in the same year.

The £100 is invested with other moneys of the Toller Authorities, and the proceeds are duly applied in aid of Nunneley's Charity (which see).

The £50 was invested in Consols, and the dividends for many years remained unclaimed. In 1893 the accumulated dividends amounted to £29 8s. 10d., and were by the direction of the Charity Commissioners added to the original bequest and invested. Since then the dividends on the total sum (£91 6s. 8d. 2½ per cent. Consols), amounting to £2 5s. 8d. per annum, have been regularly paid to the account of the Rector and Churchwardens.

The stock stands in the name of the Official Trustee of Charitable Funds.

Davenport's Charity.

By his Will, dated the 10th day of June, 1734, Job Davenport, therein described as of Hemsted, in the County of Hertford, Gentleman, gave and devised to his well beloved friends Robert Hannell, Minister, Pastor, Preacher, or Teacher of a Congregation of Protestant Dissenters from the Church of England in Kettering; Lewis Clark, of Kettering, Sergemaker; Samuel Gill, of Kettering, Sergemaker, Thomas Garrett, of Weekley, Miller; William Wallis, of Kettering, Dyer; Samuel Hall, of Kettering, Dyer; and Samuel Shortland, of Kettering, Sergemaker; and to their heirs and assigns for ever, All that his copyhold messuage or tenement situate in Kettering then divided into five several tenements And also all those his two other messuages or tenements situate in Wellingborough in a certain place there called the East End being also copyhold And also all those his freehold lands tenements and hereditaments lying and being in Lutterworth which he had sometime then since purchased of Benjamin Reynolds the particulars of which were as followed (that was to say) One peece or parcell of ground inclosed commonly known by the name of the Cherry Orchard and a House thereon standing Which peece of ground contained three acres or thereabouts And allso three other peeces of ground inclosed parcell whereof was used as a Cherry Orchard containing together in the whole one acre or thereabouts And also one other peece of pasture ground inclosed containing three acres or thereabouts, Of which said copihold premises in Kettering and Wellingborough he had passed two severall surrenders to the use of his will, To hold the said thereby before devised copihold and freehold premises with all the appurtenances and every part thereof unto the said Rob. Hannell, L. Clark, S. Gill, T. Garrett, W. Wallis, S. Hall, and S. Shortland, their heirs and assigns for ever upon the trusts thereinafter declared (that was to say) In trust that his said Trustees and their heirs or successors should at all times thereafter

apply the rents and profits of the premises towards the support and maintenance of every minister pastor preacher or teacher for the time being of that seperate Protestant Congregation Dissenting from the Church of England usually assembling themselves together for the publick worship of Allmighty God in Kettering commonly called the Baptists or Anabaptist or Antipeedobaptist Assembly or Congregation and whereof or to whom the said Robert Hannell was the then Minister Pastor Preacher or Teacher Provided always that when his said trustees should by death be reduced to the number of three that they should surrender and convey their said copihold and freehold trust estate to the use of seven trustees whereof the three surviving trustees should be of the number and the other four should be of their nomination and appointment and to the heirs and assigns of such seven trustees upon the trust aforesaid and so in like manner for ever to the end that a perpetuall succession of trustees might be kept up And after providing for the event of the repeal of the Act of the first year of William and Mary as to Dissenters and giving to his brother James Davenport £5 yearly for life, to Mr. Benjamin Moore the Baptist Pastor in Sutton or his successors £3 a year during Moore's life, and to his niece Elizabeth Sparrow the plate and linen he had intrusted her with the Testator gave all the residue of his personal estate upon the same trusts as far as might be as the realty and he appointed his said trustees Executors of his will.

Mr. Davenport died soon after, for his will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 6th February, 1734-35. In divers documents of varying dates other than his will he is described as of Maydwell, Lutterworth, and Kettering.

The surrender above referred to of the Kettering cottages to the uses of his will was dated 22nd October, 1726, and the Trustees of his will were admitted thereunder at a Court held on 30th October, 1735.

Two of the Kettering cottages were burnt on the 4th November, 1767, but "being insured by

the Society of the Sun Fire Office in London the sum of £40 14s. 3d. was by them allowed and paid to the said trustees for the damage and loss." The rest of the premises were then "very old thatched buildings and thereby very chargeable in keeping in repairs." They were not as a consequence rebuilt, but the whole of the premises were soon after sold for £76 10s. 0d., which, with the insurance money, £40 14s. 3d., a sum of £20 left by Mrs. Barker, of Cransley, and £2 10s. 6d. rents in hand, £139 14s. 9d. in all, was handed to Mr. Beeby Wallis under an arrangement whereby part of the site of the present Chapel and the adjoining premises on the East were acquired on very advantageous terms.

Job Davenport, then of Kettering, purchased the Wellingborough cottages from one Thomas Lawford, and was admitted tenant thereof at a Court held on 11th May, 1734, paying a fine of £3 12s. 6d. On 3rd June following he surrendered the premises to the use of his will, and at a Court held on 11th October, 1736, Robert Hannell, after producing Job Davenport's will, was admitted tenant thereto "Upon the trusts in the said will mentioned," and paid a fine of £5 5s. 6d.

Endeavours have been made to trace further dealings with this property, but unsuccessfully. No entry can be found in the Court Rolls, nor is there any reference in the records of the Baptist Church. It is probable that Hannell, as the then pastor, took the rents during his life, and that after his death the cottages became ruinous; that no steps to assert the Trustees' ownership of them were taken; and that in time the site was absorbed by adjoining owners. It is difficult to otherwise account for their disappearance.

The Lutterworth property was taken possession of soon after Mr. Davenport's death, and the rents thereof have been duly applied ever since in aid of the Minister's salary.

The premises now consist of about five acres of land, with a house and stable, and the whole produce an annual rent of about £50.

New trustees have from time to time been appointed, and of the trustees appointed on

the 3rd April, 1876, Messrs. Davis Frederic Gotch, William Meadows, William Stafford Jenkinson, and George Samuel Wallis are the survivors.

Dawson's Charity.

The Parish Book has the following reference to this Charity:—

"Nov. 14, 1751. Whereas Mr. Tho. Dawson Inkeeper at the George in Kettering in the year 1733 left Fifty Pounds to the Poor of the Parish of Kettering by will to be laid out in land and Mrs. Ann Dawson his Widdow is said to have added Ten Pounds more It is agreed at this Vestry to appoint Mr. John Goodfellow Mr. Thos. Collis Mr. John Buswell Mr. Kit Thompson to look out and purchase land for the said Poors use. Witness Tho. Allen Rr."

A rent charge on lands in Broomhills seems to have been purchased, and the income therefrom was distributed on Christmas Eve to the Poor not receiving collection.

After the Inclosure the charge became payable out of an allotment to Mr. John Green, of Warkton. The land passed eventually to the late Rev. James Sutton, and the sum is now paid with Cave's dole of 22s. by Mr. James B. Sutton, of Slough, the present owner, in January yearly. It is distributed in doles by the Churchwardens and Overseers with other Charities.

Eady's Charity.

It is stated in an order of the Charity Commissioners that Thomas or Christopher Eady founded this Charity by a surrender in 1680, and at the Court held on 3rd October, 1681, amongst other surrenders, is one by Thomas Edey of a yard land and a half to Gilbert Stoughton, which was probably the surrender in question.

Bridges, quoting from the brass tablet of Charities, says: "Christopher Edey gave £4 per annum payable by quarterly instalments of £1 each to the Overseers out of the White Hart Inn and one yard land."

It seems doubtful if the amount was ever really charged on the Inn, which was, however, held by Gilbert Stoughton and his family for many years, and eventually passed to William Rasdall, of Newark.

In 1750 William Rasdall surrendered "One Yard Land, Arrable, Ley, Meadow, and Pasture Ground . . . Chargeable yearly with four pounds to the poor of Kettering." He also, at the same time, surrendered the White Hart.

About the time of the Inclosure the Yard Land was in the hands of William Manning, but he soon after sold it to Thomas Robinson. The charge then became payable out of 82a. 2r. 23p. of land in the Nether Field, allotted to Thomas Robinson, and later out of 23a. 3r. 13p. of land, part of the larger allotment, the property of John Robinson. The last named gentleman redeemed it by purchasing £160 £2 10s. 0d. per cent. Annuities, and an Order of the Charity Commissioners dated 20th February, 1891, sets out the fact.

It is now distributed in doles with the Church and Town Lands, Hunt's, Cave's, and Dawson's Charities.

James Gibbon's Charity.

Mr. James Gibbon, formerly of Brisbane, in the Colony of Queensland, but who for a few years prior to his death, which took place on the 2nd April, 1888, resided at No. 72, Kensington Park-road, in the County of Middlesex, and whose family was intimately connected with Kettering in years gone by, in his will, dated the 23rd July, 1885, made the following bequests:—

"I give to the Rector and Churchwardens of the Parish of Kettering aforesaid £500 Four pounds per centum Queensland Government

Debentures free of legacy duty Upon trust to pay and divide the interest and dividends from time to time arising therefrom or from the Trust fund for the time being representing the same Debentures equally between the six or other number of Widows for the time being living in the Alms Houses or Widows Hospital called Sawyer's Hospital at Kettering aforesaid.

"I give to the Trustees for the time being of the Charity at Kettering aforesaid called the Kettering Poor Widows Fund of which Charity the Reverend Henry Lindsay and George Warren Lamb are the present Trustees £500 Four pounds per centum Queensland Government Debentures free of legacy duty Upon trust to apply the interest and dividends from time to time arising therefrom or from the Trust fund for the time being representing the same Debentures for the purposes of the said Charity."

The will was proved in the Principal Registry on the 18th May, 1888, by Henry Wortley Lamb, of Kettering, Solicitor; George Henry Woolley, of No. 24, Bryanston Square, in the County of Middlesex, Solicitor; and William Withers Moore the Younger, of Finsbury Park, in the said County of Middlesex, Tea Broker, the Executors therein named.

The Debentures were duly transferred and the income therefrom applied to the two Charities in question, of which accounts will be found under the headings of "Sawyer's Hospital" and "Mrs. McGrouther's Charity."

Girls' Charity School.

By a Declaration of Trust, under seal dated 1st September, 1775, Brook Bridges, of Orlingbury, clerk, Nathaniel Bridges, of Magdalen College, Oxford, eldest son of the said Brook Bridges, Brook Allen Bridges, of Staples Inn, gentleman, another son, Ann Aldwinckle, of Kettering, widow, Elizabeth Baker of the same place, spinster and Martha Baker of the same place, spinster. After reciting that Nathaniel

Bridges, late of Wadenhoe, clerk, did give the sum of £300 for the purpose of establishing a Charity School at Kettering for the education of such a number of girls of the Parish of Kettering, as Trustees for that purpose to be appointed should think proper and as hereinafter mentioned And reciting that Sarah Haslewood, late of Kettering, aforesaid, widow, did by her last Will give the sum of £10 to the aforesaid Charity School for the better support and establishment thereof And reciting that Hephzibah Sanders, late of Kettering aforesaid, spinster, deceased, did also by her last Will give the sum of £10 to be paid to the Trustees, and applied towards the promotion of the aforesaid Charity in such manner, and for such purposes as they, the Trustees should think fit And reciting that the said several sums of £300, £10, and £10 so as aforesaid given had been placed out upon different securitys, and the interest duly applied towards the instructing of eighteen girls all of the Parish of Kettering, in reading, spinning, sewing and knitting, and in order the better to establish, and for the more regular care and promotion of that Laudable Charity the several sums of £300, £10 and £10 had been respectively called in and therewith the sum of £323 18s. 0d., four per cent. consolidated stock had been purchased And reciting that the said stock was then standing in the names of the said Brook Bridges, Nathaniel Bridges, Brook Allen Bridges, Ann Aldwinckle, Elizabeth Baker and Martha Baker, some or one of them Trustees of the Charity School of Kettering aforesaid They, the said Brook Bridges, Nathaniel Bridges, Brook Allen Bridges, Ann Aldwinckle, Elizabeth Baker and Martha Baker, did testify and declare that the said sum of £323 18s. 0d. four per cent. consolidated stock standing in their names was there placed to and for the uses, intents and purposes thereinafter expressed and declared concerning the same, that was to say Upon trust to receive the dividends of the said stock, or the interest to arise therefrom on account of the same being placed out on mortgage pursuant to the powers thereafter mentioned, and pay and apply the same for

and towards the salary of such fit and discreet woman as they the said Trustees and the survivor of them or any future or other Trustees or the survivor of them should think proper to instruct such a number of Poor Girls in reading, spinning, sewing and knitting, of the Parish of Kettering, as they should think fit, and the interest would be equivalent for that purpose And in case any persons should thereafter make any further or other Bequest to the aforesaid Charity, they, the said Trustees, did thereby declare that it was the meaning of them that any such sums so as aforesaid to be given should be applied by the then Trustees in the purchase of Stock, in such fund as any money to be applied for the benefit of the Charity should then be placed and added to the Capital Sum, and the interest and dividends applied as thereinbefore mentioned Provided always, and it was thereby declared that in case of the death or removal from the Parish of Kettering or the neighbourhood thereof of such a number of Trustees, as that the same should be reduced to three it should be lawful for the Survivor to appoint such a number of Trustees as the Survivors should approve, and after the appointment and nomination of such Trustees all Charity moneys should be transferred to the new Trustees and they should stand possessed of the same upon the trusts and for the same purposes thereinbefore declared concerning the same Provided always and it was thereby further declared that it should be lawful for the Trustees for the time being to sell the said sum of £323 18s. 0d. four per cent. consolidated Annuities and to lend the moneys arising from such sale, and any sums which might be given by any well disposed person wishing to patronise the Charity upon any messuages and lands in England by way of mortgage, or upon any public or private security as they should think fit And that it should be lawful for the Trustees for the time being to reimburse themselves out of the trust premises for all costs to which they might be put in the execution of the Charity.

The document was executed by all the parties thereto.

By her Will dated 19th March, 1782, the said Martha Baker gave to the Rev. Brook Bridges, of Orlingbury, £100 South Sea Annuities Stock "in trust for the use of the Charity School in Kettering." The Will was proved in the Archdeaconry Court at Northampton, on the 23rd day of July, 1782, and on the 19th February, 1784, the Stock was duly standing in the name of the Rev. Brook Bridges.

By a deed dated the 22nd August, 1845, and made between John Bridges, of Red Lion Square, in the County of Middlesex, esquire, and the Rev. Thos. Anthony Methuen, of All Cannings, in the County of Wilts, clerk, of the first part, Sir Brook William Bridges, of Goodnistone Park, Kent, Bart, the Rev. Brook Geo. Bridges, Orlingbury, Northants, clerk, the said John Bridges, Nathaniel Bridges, of Red Lion Square aforesaid, esquire, Sir Arthur de Capel Brooke, of Great Oakley, Bart, William de Capel Brooke, of Geddington, esquire, the Rev. Henry Corrie, of Kettering, clerk, Henry Lamb, of Kettering, gentleman, Thos. Philip Maunsell, of Thorpe, Esquire, the Rev. Sir George Robinson, of Cranford, Bart, the Honourable and Rev. Richard Bruce Stopford, of Barton Seagrave, clerk, William Wroughton, the younger of Kettering, Surgeon, and Allen Allicocke Young, of Orlingbury, Esquire of the second part, and the said Sir Brook Wm. Bridges, Brook Geo. Bridges, John Bridges, and Nathaniel Bridges, of the third part After reciting the Deed Poll of 1st September, 1775, and the bequest of Martha Baker And reciting the death of the said Brook Bridges, Ann Aldwinckle, Elizabeth Baker and Brook Allen Bridges And reciting the death of the said Nathaniel Bridges in 1834, and his will whereof he appointed the said John Bridges and Thomas Anthony Methuen Executors, and their proof of same in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury And reciting that the said sum of £323 18s. 0d. four pounds per cent. consolidated Bank annuities and £100 South Sea Annuities by conversion and subsequent additions amounted to the sum of £663 17s. 10d. reduced three and a quarter per cent. Bank annuities And reciting that the said Thomas Anthony

Methuen desired to retire from the trusts of the Deed of 1775 It was witnessed that the said John Bridges and Thomas Anthony Methuen did thereby appoint the said Sir Brook Wm. Bridges, B. G. Bridges, J. Bridges, N. Bridges, Sir A. De Capel Brooke, William de Capel Brooke, H. Corrie, H. Lamb, T. P. Maunsell, Sir Geo. Robinson, R. B. Stopford, W. Wroughton and A. A. Young to be Trustees in the place of the said T. A. Methuen and the said deceased trustees.

By a deed dated 28th April, 1890, indorsed on the last-named deed and made between Nathaniel Bridges and A. A. Young of the one part and the said Nathaniel Bridges, A. A. Young, George Lewis Watson, of Rockingham Castle, esquire, the Reverend Henry Lindsay, of Kettering, Honorary Canon of Peterborough, the Reverend Reginald Prideaux Lightfoot, Vicar of Wellingborough, Archdeacon of Oakham, George Warren Lamb of Kettering, solicitor, and John Winter Dryland, of Kettering, surgeon, of the other part After reciting that the said N. Bridges and A. A. Young were the surivving Trustees of the deed of the 22nd day of August, 1845 And reciting that the sum of £663 17s. 10d. reduced three and three-quarter per cent. Bank Annuities had then become converted into the sum of £663 17s. 10d. two and three-quarter per cent. Bank annuities It was witnessed that the said N. Bridges and A. A. Young did thereby appoint the said G. L. Watson, H. Lindsay, R. P. Lightfoot, G. W. Lamb and J. W. Dryland to be Trustees in the place of the deceased Trustees conjointly with themselves.

The surviving Trustee is Mr. G. W. Lamb, and in him is vested the £663 17s. 10d. two-and-half per cent. Consols, now representing the funds relating to this Charity.

The Charity School appears to have been first established about the beginning of the eighteenth century and to have been originally supported by subscriptions or donations.

It also appears to have received Town recognition and support, for in the Parish Books are the following interesting entries:—

"August 30, 1709 It was agreed at a meeting then had that ye Gallery at the West end of the Church shall be divided into four seats and that three foremost of ye seates shall be for ye use of ye mistresse and ye children of ye Charity Schole and the hindermost of them for the use of any other persons and that ye Churchwardens do get the same made accordinglye.

"It was further agreed that a house shall be taken for one yeare for ye use of ye said schole and yt ye rent of ye house shall be paid out of ye moneys arising for the Interest of ye town moneys which are now placed out on security at interest.

"October 4, 1709 Whereas a house is letten and taken from Richard Dyson to the Townsmen of Kettering for a Charity School after the rate of tenn pound a year commencing from Michaelmas last past the Overseers are to pay Levies for the same the Townsmen to pay the Parliamentary Taxes after Lady day next."

The Rev. Thomas Cox, in his topographical description of Northamptonshire, published about 1700, refers to it thus: "A School established for the Teaching, Cloathing, Lodging, and Dieting of twenty Girls who go constantly to Prayers in the Parish Church. It is chiefly maintained by a Subscription of 40*l* per annum. They spin Jersey, and what they earn that way goes toward their better Maintenance."

In the eighth edition of "An Account of Charity Schools lately erected in Great Britain and Ireland," published in 1709, is the following note:—"Kettering. A Legacy of 10*l*. per ann. for ever left towards the support of a Girls' School."

The Parish Registers record the burial, on 5th October, 1738, of "Widow Richards, dame of the Charity School."

The Rev. Nathaniel Bridges, who was for 33 years Rector of Wadenhoe, and died in March, 1747, and to whose "Pious Memory" a silver dish was presented to the Wadenhoe Church Plate, must have interested himself in the affairs of the School in his lifetime. For by his will, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 25th June, 1747, and whereof

Sarah Bridges, his widow, was sole executrix, he does not appear to have made any charitable bequest.

The Declaration of Trust of 1775 seems to show that the School was flourishing at that time, and that 18 girls were receiving instruction as therein stated.

In Cooke's description of Northamptonshire, published about 1802, it is stated that "Here is a small charity school for girls to learn to read, spin, and knit."

The Charity Commissioners' Report of 1830 states that, although there had been a break in the continuity of the school, it had for some years then past been carried on, and that at that time the sum of £20 a year was allowed to a schoolmistress for instructing about 20 girls in reading, sewing, and lace making, and the remainder of the dividends available was expended in books and materials for the girls' work and in wearing apparel for some of the children who had been longest in the School.

Prior to this Mrs. Norman, one of the old schoolmistresses, only used to receive £9 12s. a year, and after her death a fit person could not be found to take her place at so small a stipend. Later on, however, as a result of accumulated dividends being used for the purchase of additional stock, when Mrs. Chater was appointed she received first £16 a year and later £20. At the time of the Charity Commissioners' Report the funds stood at the figure they do to-day.

In later times the dividends were paid to Mrs. Hircock, who carried on the school in her private house, but after her death the money was paid to the Church School Managers towards the salary of the Mistress of the Market Hill National School pending the completion of a scheme whereby certain children were to be nominated for, and to receive, free education at that school. The children so nominated were not intended, however, to be limited to Church of England children, and it was not at the inquiry held on 20th June, 1893, contended that the Charity was a denominational one, the Rev. B. R. Wilson stating that in the selection of the girls under a proper scheme

no denominational question would arise. One or more schemes on the above lines have, as a matter of fact, been submitted to the Charity Commissioners, but they have not been approved.

Grammar School.

The origin of Kettering Grammar School has given rise to many conjectures. The one finding most favour is that the endowments formed part of the possessions given for the sustentation of a morrow mass priest. The Chantry Certificates state that there was at Kettering "One stipendarye preest founded and maynteyned partely with the devotion of the inhabitants of the seyd Town of Kettering which ys a Market Towne and partely with the Revenues of certaine Lands and tenements gyven by Copye of Courte Role to fynde a preest callyd the morrow masse to sing there for ever Is worth by yere xls Rente Resolute xvijs jd ob Remaynethe Clere xxijs xd ob." It is curious that the rent reserved in respect of the lease shortly mentioned is xxijs ijd., but the fact remains that on 10 December, 1571, Queen Elizabeth granted to William James and John Grey all the lands and tenements lying and being in Kettering then or then lately in the occupation of the Churchwardens of the Church there or of other Inhabitants of Kettering and theretofore to the perpetual maintenance of the obit priest or other like purposes in the Church of Kettering given assigned and appointed. The grant was in free and common socage and the rent reserved iid.

The Manor of Kettering, which, up to the time of the Dissolution of Monasteries, was one of the possessions of Peterborough Abbey, was then seized by the Crown, and there are a good many grants and leases relating to it in the succeeding half century.

As now, there appear, even in those days, to have been prominent men eager for the Town's welfare, and it may probably be assumed that it was owing to their representations that the

Crown decided to found a Grammar School here. For on 15 June, 1577, Queen Elizabeth by letters patent "in consideration that Kettering is a large town and great in the number of boys and replete of youths and that the said town might be adorned with a learned suitable and lettered man and schoolmaster by whom the boys and youths there might be instructed and educated in good learning and the fear of God" granted to Edward Watson junior gent. Basil Lane gent. Henry Sawyer Thomas Sparrow Henry Richards William Cave Henry Linne Richard Meadhouse and Nicholas Alderman the shop lately in the tenure of Henry Lavere another shop in the tenure of Thomas Belcher and a house in Silver Lane in the tenure of William Haslewood a cottage and certain leys at Bromshill in the tenure of Agnes Harte widow a close called Pooles Close in the tenure of Edward Watson a close in Northolde in the tenure of Henry Drurye a house in the tenure of Richard Hempstocke a house and half vigate of land in the tenure of John Drewrye a small close in Northolde and a toft and leasowe at le Malt myll in tenure of Henry Sawyer and the house and lands in the tenure of Henry Palmer the house in the tenure of Robt. Parsons and the house in the tenure of Robert Weston Le Spinney et Le Maltmyll in the tenure of Thomas Houlston a barn in the tenure of John Drewrye a small house in Kettering Market in the tenure of Thomas Belcher a house in the tenure of Broughton and all the lands at Lymekill in the tenure of Thomas Belcher Also a barn called Le Towne barne in the tenure of Hugh Cave All which were parcel of the Manor of Kettering and late possessions of the Monastery of Peterborough. The grant was for a term of 21 years from the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary then last past and the rent was xxijs ijd payable at the feasts of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation by equal portions." The grant provided that the tenants should do all requisite repairs and that the Trustees should nominate a schoolmaster from time to time to be approved by the Bishop. It also contained a proviso that

if five of the nine tenants should die during the said term the remaining four should immediately surrender the letters patent, and that they with five other of the better inhabitants of Kettering should cause to be procured others for a lease of 21 years. There was also a proviso that a school house should be well and conveniently provided.

In view of this grant and the conditions it contains for the appointment of a schoolmaster and the provision of a school house, it seems evident that the School was thereby founded, and that all other theories as to the date of its foundation and endowment must fall to the ground.

It should be noted also that all the premises granted are said to have been formerly part of the possessions of Peterborough, and not of the morrow mass priest.

On 16 February, 1597, there are the particulars for a further grant, which, after mentioning the lease of 15 June, 1577, and that the premises were demised thereby for the sole behoof and maintenance of a Schoolmaster in Kettering for the better instruction of youth within the said town, where there was a great number, and also that the nomination of a fit and sufficient man to be Schoolmaster there was, by virtue of the said lease, committed to the election of the trustees, provided that his sufficiency was approved and allowed by the Bishop of the Diocese, went on to state that forasmuch as the same was first intended for the increase of learning, and it might seem reasonable so to be granted again, it was recommended that the new patentees with the Schoolmaster for the time being should have power to let the same to the only benefit of the Schoolmaster so long as he should continue Schoolmaster there, and no longer, and also that none of the patentees should be tenants.

The new Lease was granted in the following year, and there was another lease for 31 years, but at the old rent, on 17 May, 1626.

In 1632 or thereabouts the State Papers give certain particulars as to the Manor of Kettering, stating that the rents from Customary Tenants are £65 5s. 8½d., Rents of Cottages

22s. 2d., Tolls 24s. 4d. In all £67 12s. 2½d. The document also says "farm rents there are but two parcells the first whereof was lately granted to the Towne for the use of the School." If the rent thus granted was the 22s. 2d. it may be assumed that it was at this time that the reversion of the premises was granted to the School Trustees. For although both in 1628 and 1631 the reversion was apparently dealt with (in the one case the reference is in Letters Patent and in the other in the Close Rolls), there are no more references to leases from the Crown.

"The schoolmaster of Kettering, one Mr. Seaton," is referred to in 1635 as a nonconformitant but he protested that he was absolutely conformable and zealously given that way, and no man could be found that would accuse him in any particular.

In 1653 there was a Survey of certain lands and houses at Kettering, "parcell of the possessions of Charles the late King of which he was seized as in right of the Crown but then settled on Trustees for ye use of the Commonwealth of England and by them held as of the Mannor of East Greenwich in free and common socage by fealtye onleye."

The premises described in this Survey are those demised by the lease of 17th May, 1626, and the various properties are dealt with in great detail.

For instance: "Edward Drurye houldeth one house conteyning one room and a croft nere unto adjoyninge bounded on the North by Stanch Lane South on Nappwell and adjoyning west to North bridge conteyning one acre and two roods more or less also half a yard of land lying dispersed within the Common fields belonging to the Towne of Kettering conteyning eight acres more or lesse worth upon improvement per ann. vj li."

Again: "Henry Cave houldeth two shoppes situate in Rotten Roe neer the Market Place in Kettering bounded on the North by the Stocke house and on the South by a shop in the tenure of Henry Bullock wch is worth upon improvement per ann. xxiiijs."

"William Moate houldeth a house in Rotten Roe aforesaid conteyning one room belowe stayrs and one above bounded on the North by Thomas Randol wch is worth upon improvement per ann. xijs."

John Ashby also held a similar house in Rotten Row, William Roberts had a shop opposite the "Lyon Inne," and Timothy Pattison premises adjoining the Cocke Inn. There were too various properties in Mill Lane, in the Street leading to the Common Bakehouse, in Wadcroft and Windmill Field, and a barn called the Towne barne had been converted into a house.

The Schoolhouse is thus described: "Mr. . . . Hewett houldeth as Schoolemaster one house used for the Schoolehouse and also one other house adjoyning to the said school conteyning a hall a parler and two chambers over them and a garden conteyning one Rood and ten perches more or less bounded on the East by Samuel Houldmans house on the west by William Ansteas wch is worth upon improvement per ann. xiiijs xjd."

The total rentals of all the premises were put at £26.

The why and the wherefore of the Survey is somewhat incomprehensible if the reversion of the School premises was at the time vested in the School Trustees.

A memorandum in the Wood MS. in the Bodleian, possibly about 1674, runs: "Mr. Fowler Mr. of the Free Schoole at Kettering in Coun. N'hap & Rector which is onlie titular, for he hath no tithes or Ch. dues."

The School is lost sight of again until 1681, on the 5th October in which year an Inquisition was taken at Northampton. It was then found by the Commissioners that from the time whereof the memory of man was not to the contrary there had been a Free School in the Town of Kettering for the teaching of Latin and English scholars for the youths that did inhabit in the said Town. The school properties, "which had for the time aforesaid belonged to the school," were, too, described. It was stated that the Guardians or Trustees for the School were all dead, and that Samuel Sher-

win, clerk, was then the Schoolmaster there and thereunto lawfully elected, licensed, and appointed. And likewise that the House wherein he dwelt had been for the time aforesaid used for a Habitation for the Schoolmaster and for a Schoolhouse to teach Scholars there.

The Decree made on the findings of the Commissioners adjudged that the Schoolhouse should continue to be used for the Habitation of a Schoolmaster for the teaching of Scholars born or inhabiting in the said town in English and Latin, and that the said Schoolhouse should be repaired by the Schoolmaster for the time being, and that Samuel Sherwin should continue Schoolmaster there during the will and pleasure of the Guardians and Overseers of the said School. And by the same Decree Lord Rockingham and 10 others were appointed Guardians and Overseers with powers to lease the School properties for 21 years and to appoint and dismiss the Schoolmaster. Provision was also made as to the appointment on the death of six of the trustees of new trustees, being Parishioners or Inhabitants of Kettering or the Towns near adjoining, of the best sort and ability to make up the number to eleven.

Samuel Sherwin was instituted as Rector of Kettering on 10th December, 1680. and was succeeded by Francis Sawyer, who was instituted on 11th July, 1684, and buried on 30th November, 1709.

Among the School Papers is a somewhat curious document, dated 18th November, 1705, by which Richard Jones is promised that on the death of Mr. Francis Sawyer, Rector and Schoolmaster, he shall receive the Headship of the School. The arrangement was, moreover, carried out, and a glimpse of the School during his mastership is obtained from the following advertisement, which speaks for itself, and appeared in the Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury of 31 October, 1717:—

"At the Free School in Kettering, in Northamptonshire, as the most rational and easie Method of teaching the Latin Tongue, the Rules of the Common Grammar concerning Nouns and Verbs, and some useful Rules of

Syntax being translated, are taught in English. Also plain Definitions of the Figures both of Grammar and Rhetorick, by R. Jones, A.M.

"Note.—For the Accommodation of a young Nobleman and some Gentlemen's Sons, the School is made convenient with ceiling, chimney, &c."

The Parish Registers of March, 1722, record the baptism of a daughter of the "Revd. Mr. Rich. Jones Schoolmaster and Sarah his wife," and later on in the same year Mr. Jones left Kettering, having been appointed Headmaster of Oundle School.

In the account given of Oundle Grammar School in the Victoria History of England, the writer, after stating that Mr. Jones was of Clare College, Cambridge, goes on: "All that we hear of his reign (at Oundle) is incessant wrangles over repairs and for a decent house for the schoolmaster. On 26 May, 1761, his son informed the Company of Jones' death."

His successor, the Rev. Thomas Allen, another Rector, was appointed on 24th October, 1722. He was instituted on 18th May, 1715, and was buried at Kettering on 3rd June, 1755. The burial of "Mr. North, schoolmaster," is recorded in January, 1737, but he may have been an assistant merely, and Mr. Allen probably held the appointment up to the time of his death, as the Licence of John Warner, of Kettering, to the post of Schoolmaster is dated 6 October, 1755.

On 12 April, 1775, at a meeting at the George Inn, Sir John Palmer, Sir Wm. Dolben, Baronets, John Robinson, Esq., Mr. Roughton and John Goodfellow, the major part of the surviving Guardians and Trustees of Kettering free school, let certain lands and tenements for the term of 21 years.

Mr. Warner continued to hold the post of schoolmaster till his death at the end of the eighteenth century, and on 18 January, 1800, John Warner, his son, who had been a sergeant in the army, was appointed temporarily to carry on the school.

In January, 1801, however, the Rev. James Hogg, of Holbeck, near Leeds, was appointed master to teach English, Latin, Writing, and

Accounts. In addition to performing his scholastic duties. Mr. Hogg sometimes officiated at Kettering Church, and in 1803 was appointed curate of Geddington. In 1815, on the death of Mr. Knight, who was vicar of Geddington as well as rector of Kettering, Mr. Hogg obtained the Geddington living, but, nevertheless, retained the mastership of the school till his death in 1845.

During his long term of office three important events took place, the one being the Kettering Inclosure, another the establishment of Elementary Schools in the town, and the other the report on the School in 1830 by the Charity Commission.

This report states that "the master admits as free scholars such boys being sons of inhabitants of Kettering as are sent to him and instructs them in English and as many of them as require it in Latin." Further that "for some time after Mr. Hogg became Master the school was attended by about 60 boys but the number of free scholars had been reduced to between 30 and 40, which reduction he ascribed to the establishment of a National School in the place." Writing and arithmetic were taught by an assistant master, and it was rather a question whether a moderate charge should not be made for instruction in those subjects.

The income from the School properties was found to be £147 8s. 8d.

Mr. Hogg was, on 11th February, 1845, succeeded by the Rev. Richard Morton, who had been his curate at Geddington; and when this gentleman not long after was appointed curate at Burton Latimer the number of boys attending the School had dwindled to two or three, who actually walked to Burton for their lessons!

The apathy of those interested in the School was, however, at length broken, and a new scheme, known as the scheme of 1854, was obtained from the Court of Chancery. Soon after it became operative Mr. Morton, being presented to the Rothwell Vicarage, resigned his mastership, and was succeeded by the Rev. F. Tearle, M.A., of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

Under Mr. Tearle the School quickly became

popular, and in 1856 a new Master's house and school, the existing buildings, were erected.

In 1864 Mr. Tearle left Kettering for Leicester to take up an appointment there, and took a number of boarders with him.

The Rev. Thomas Widdowson, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, was elected as Mr. Tearle's successor, and towards the end of 1864 the Schools Inquiry Commission found him with 52 boys, four of whom were boarders.

In 1874 the day scholars were 25 only, and there were no boarders.

At length, on 21 February, 1888, a new scheme was approved by the Queen in Council. Under it was created a governing body called the Governors, consisting of thirteen competent persons, eight called Representative Governors, and holding office for five years, and five called Co-optative Governors, holding office for eight years. Two of the Representative Governors were to be chosen by Kettering Justices of the Peace and the other six by an electing body consisting of the persons for the time being Guardians of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering, the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering, and the members of the Kettering Local and Burial Boards. The first Co-optative Governors were eight in number, and were named and appointed for life, but future Governors of this class are to be appointed by the general body of Governors.

Boys between the age of nine and seventeen were, under the scheme, to be eligible for admission under certain conditions, and the fees were to be not less than £4 nor more than £8 a year for any boy in the prescribed courses of study, but these fees have since been varied.

In 1890 the number of scholars was 61, but in 1896 21 only. In the last-named year Mr. Widdowson relinquished the mastership on the payment of a sum down and a pension of £100 a year, which was duly paid to the date of his death in October, 1903.

Mr. James Herbert Gill, B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, was, on Mr. Widdowson's retirement, appointed as acting Head, and still holds such post, the present number of scholars being about 45.

Mr. C. W. Stringer is the Clerk to the Governors.

The properties of the school have of late years greatly increased in value, and now produce an annual income of £958, and the dividends on a sum of £254 10s. 8d. Consols amount to £6 7s. 0d. The tuition fees for 1906 were, too, £282 10s. 0d.

It is felt, however, that with such a history and such an endowment better scholastic facilities ought to be afforded, and for many years efforts, so far uncrowned with success, have been made to erect suitable buildings and to provide an adequate staff for a first-class Town Grammar School.

Thomas Gotch's Charity.

By his will, dated the 27th August, 1805, Thomas Gotch, of Kettering, Banker, who died the 20th January, 1806, made the following bequest, viz.:—

"I give and bequeath to the Minister and Deacons for the time being of the Baptist Meeting in Kettering the sum of £100 In trust to be placed out by them at interest and the interest applied annually to their discretion for ever among the poor of the said Congregation the same to be paid within twelve months next after my decease."

The executors appointed were Testator's wife, Ann Gotch, and his son, John Cooper Gotch, and the will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by the latter only on 12th March, 1806.

The amount was until recently lent on mortgage security, but is now in hand.

Hunt's Charity.

Edward Hunt of Broughton in the County of Northampton Yeoman, by his Will, dated the 20th day of October 1674 and proved on the 7th day of December following at Northampton, amongst other things, created the Charity known by his name.

The portion of the Will referring to the Charity reads as follows:—

"And after the decease of my said wife I give and bequeath them as followeth (that is to say) my Will is and I doe hereby give and bequeath unto the Ministers Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore present and future of Broughton aforesaid and of Kettering and Rothwell in the said County and to their successors for ever All those my two yarde lands and one quarterne of a yard land with their and every of their appurtenances aforesaid with all the commons profitts and comodities of them and every of them with this trust reposed in them and every of them to see and take care that the said two yarde lands and one quarterne of a yarde land with their and every of their appurtenances aforesaid forthwith after the decease of my said wife to set and let at the rents hereafter specified (vizt.) for twenty ffoure pounds pr annum and noe more besides levys and taxes (that is to say) the yard land and quarterne called Chambers his land to be set and lett but for ffourteen pounds and ten shillings by the yeare And the yard land called Hacknys land but for nine pounds ten shillings by the yeare to be paid halfe yearely and every yeare for ever on two days of payment yearely that is to say on the tenth day of April and the tenth day of October by even and equall portions and they upon the receipt thereof every halfe yeare to send to the other persons before mentioned intrusted with them And they altogether or any ffoure of them whereof the Ministers of the said places to be of the said ffoure to distribute the same as followeth (that is to say) my Wills is And I do hereby give and bequeath tenn pounds thereof yearely to the poore of Kettering aforesaid to be paid into the hands of the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore there by two equall portions halfe yearely for ever And they upon the days aforesaid to distribute the same as followeth vizt. to twenty of the poorest widdows and aged persons in their said towne two shillings apeece And to sixty others of the poorest widdows aged persons and children where they shall judge and thinke is most

neede to every one of them twelve pence apeece And for their care and paynes therein I doe give unto them out of the said rents sixe shillings eight pence every halfe yeare to pay for their Dinners after their such distribution made as foresaid Item I also give and bequeath to the poore of Rothwell aforesaid eight pounds by the yeare to be paid half yearely as aforesaid out of the said rents by even and equal portions for ever to the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore there to be distributed and paid by them on the days before appointed as followeth that is to say to twenty of the poorest widdows and aged persons in the said towne two shillings apeece And to fforty others of the next poorest widdows aged persons, and children there twelve pence apeece And for their care and paynes therein I doe give unto them six shillings eight pence every halfe yeare out of the said rents to pay for their Dinners after their such distribution made as aforesaid Item I give to the poore of Pitchley in the said County the sum of twenty shillings pr ann and out of the said rents to be paid by equall portions every halfe yeare to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore there And they with the approbation of their Minister to distribute the same to those that have most neede in their said towne on the days aforesaid Item I give to the poore of Broughton aforesaid fforty shillings pr ann out of the said rents to be paid halfe yearly And to be distributed by the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore there on the days aforesaid to them that have most neede in their said towne by equall portions And for their care and paynes herein and letting the premisses and collecting the rents aforesaid I give unto them out of the said rents the sume of sixe shillings eight pence every halfe yeare to pay for their dinner after their such distribution made as aforesaid Item I give to the poore of Weekly in the said County the sume of ten shillings yearely And to the poore of Warkton in the said County the sume of ten shillings yearely for ever To be paid to the Ministers Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore of

each of them half yearely by equall portions And they to distribute the same on the days aforesaid to the poore of their severall parishes by equall portions And it is my Will intent and meaning that the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore of Broughton aforesaid shall from time to time and at all times for ever be the Chiefe Acts in letting and setting the said lands and secureing the rents of the same for the uses aforesaid for ever And my Will is that if times should at any time hereafter for ever prove soe bad that the said lands will not yield the rents at the which they are herein vallued as aforesaid whatsoever they shall fall short thereof shall from time to time and at all times for ever be abated yearely out of that sume of money which I have herein and hereby given yearely to the poore of Broughton aforesaid and not out of any others And my further Will is that the Tennant or Tennants that shall hold and rent the said yard lands or any part of the same at the time of the death of the longer liver of me and my said wife shall continue and be tennants to the same at the rents aforesaid And not be displact removed or dispossesst of the same at any time without their owne free liberty and contents provided always that they comit nor wast upon the same or any part thereof nor any ways prejudice or impoverish the same or any part thereof to the lessening and diminishing of the rents aforesaid And my Will is that the said tennants shall from time to time for ever have their Dinners everay halfe yeare with the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the poore of Broughton aforesaid out of the moneys hereby given and bequeathed unto them out of the said rents for their Dinners aforesaid."

By the Award of the Commissioners appointed in and by a certain Act of Parliament made and passed in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of His late Majesty King George the Third intituled "An Act for dividing and enclosing the open and common fields common meadows common pastures commonable lands and waste grounds in the Manor and parish of

Broughton in the County of Northampton" and which Award bears date the 25th day of January 1787 and was inrolled in the office of the Clerk of the Peace of the said County of Northampton the 25th day of June 1787 there was awarded "To the said Zachariah Rose as Rector or Minister of the Parish Church of Broughton aforesaid for the time being and the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of the said parish of Broughton for the time being and the Ministers Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of the parishes of Kettering and Rothwell otherwise Rowell in the said County of Northampton for the time being as Trustees for a certain Charity called Hunt's Charity and their several and respective successors for ever for the time being the two following pieces or parcels of land or ground (that is to say) One piece or parcel or plot of land or ground lying in Stone pitt and midle fields containing forty five acres and two roods as the same is now admeasured and set out (exclusive of roads and ways over the same) bounded on the North West and part of the North East by the Allotment herein awarded to the said Hamlyn Harris on the remaining part of the North East by the Allotment herein awarded to the said Peter Eaton on the South East by the said publick road leading from Broughton to Walgrave lane and on the south by the said publick road leading from Broughton to Old Lane The hedges ditches mounds and fences of which said last described allotment on the South against the said publick road leading from Broughton to Walgrave Lane and on the South against the said public road leading from Broughton to Old Lane shall be made and for ever maintained and kept in repair by and at the expense of the said Trustees of Hunt's Charity and the owners of this allotment for the time being And one other piece or parcel or plot of land or ground lying in the Upper Middle Field containing eighteen acres and five perches as the same is now admeasured and set out (exclusive of a foot way over the same) bounded on the North by the said publick road leading from Broughton to Old Lane

on part of the South East by the Allotment herein awarded to the said Trustees of the Town Land on the remaining parts of the South East by the Allotment herein awarded to the said Trustees of the Church Land and on the South West and West by the fourth Allotment herein awarded to the said Zachariah Rose as Rector in lieu of Tythes in the open fields The hedges ditches mounds stiles and fences of which said last described Allotment on the North against the said publick road leading from Broughton to Old Lane on the South East against the Allotment herein awarded to the said Trustees of the Town Land on the South East against the Allotment herein awarded to the said Trustees of the Church Land and on the North West against the fourth Allotment to the said Zachariah Rose as Rector in lieu of Tythes in the open fields shall be made and for ever maintained and kept in repair by and at the expense of the said Trustees of Hunt's Charity and the owners of this allotment for the time being."

In 1830 the Commissioners for inquiring concerning Charities state in their report that the land was then occupied by T. Gregory and —. Pulven, Widow, under a letting for seven years at rents amounting together to £96 1s. 6d., which was the full annual value; and the rent, after deducting for two dinners for the churchwardens of Broughton and the tenants, amounting to about one guinea a year, was divided into portions for the several parishes, proportioned to the sums mentioned in the Will.

Shortly prior to the date of that Report, namely, in 1828, the Kettering portion amounted to £44 a year, and was distributed half-yearly by the Minister and Churchwardens among poor widows in sums of 4s. each and among other poor persons above sixty years of age in smaller sums.

In 1893 4s. half-yearly was paid to each of the Inmates of Sawyer's Hospital, whilst nearly 200 old people received 2s. to 4s. in January and July of each year.

The application of the moneys in this manner

being considered unsatisfactory so far as Kettering was concerned, a new scheme, dated 17th January, 1896, was eventually obtained.

By this scheme it was ordered that the yearly income of the Charity should be applied by the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor under one or more of the following heads for the benefit either of the Poor of the Parish of Kettering generally, or of such deserving and necessitous persons therein as the Trustees selected for the purpose and in such way as they considered most advantageous to the recipients and most conducive to the formation of provident habits:—

I. Subscriptions or donations in aid of the funds of any Dispensary, Infirmary, Hospital, or Convalescent Home, or any Institution in which children suffering from any bodily infirmity are taught any trade or employment, whether general or special, upon such terms (so far as might be) as to enable the Trustees to secure the benefits of the institution for the objects of the Charity.

II. Contributions towards the provision of Nurses for the Sick and Infirm or in aid of the funds of any Association for providing such Nurses upon such terms (so far as might be) as to enable the Trustees to secure the benefits of the Association for the objects of the Charity.

III. The supply of Clothes, Linen, Bedding, Fuel, Tools, Medical or other aid in sickness, Food or other articles in kind, to an amount not exceeding 15*l.* in any one year.

It was provided by the scheme, nevertheless, that the funds of the Charity should not be so applied as to benefit the rates or so that any individual or institution should become entitled to a periodical or recurrent benefit therefrom, but there was a saving clause for the then recipients of doles.

The Schedule to the Order states that the property at Broughton consisted of 63a. 2r. 5p., let to Mr. J. Ball at £60 per annum, and of 14a. let in allotments of from 1 rood to 1 acre each at a total yearly rental of £31 17s. 0d. Kettering is entitled to 5-12ths of the net rentals.

All the land is now occupied by Mr. Ernest Claypole at £60 only, and for 1906 Kettering received £19 4s. 0d. as its share. A good deal of expense has been incurred lately in repairing the farm buildings, and the net available income is therefore at present smaller.

The Charity is managed by Messrs. Cattell and Favell, of Kettering, on behalf of all parties.

Knightley's Charity.

The thirteenth codicil to the will, dated 4th June, 1802, of Sir John Knightley, of Fawsley Park, in the County of Northampton, Baronet, is as follows:—

"I the Revd. Sir John Knightley Bart do hereby make this Codicil to my last Will and direct that it shall be taken as such and be good and valid even though I should hereafter make a new will or wills that is to say I give to the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of Kettering in the County of Northampton £200 and direct the interest thereof to be applied for the purposes of supporting a Sundays School at Kettering aforesaid. June 27. 1802. . . . I mean only £200 shall be paid out of my property to the above Sundays School of Kettering. June 27. 1802. . . ."

A preceding, the eleventh, codicil provides that Parishes that have Sunday Schools erected at the Testator's death should receive one-third less of the legacy left to each parish (except Byfield and Newnham).

The Testator died on 29th January, 1812, and the Will, together with 30 codicils was proved on the 18th April, 1812, in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by George Brooks, of Chancery Lane, Banker, the surviving Executor, Testatrix's sister, Jane Kingston, having predeceased him. The trust fund consists of £191 17s. 0d. Consols, standing in the name of the Official Trustee of Charitable Funds, and the income is duly received and applied.

Samuel Langley's Charity.

Samuel Langley, of Kettering, Baker, by his Will, dated the 14th February, 1731, made the following bequest:—"I give devise and bequeath unto Mr. Thomas Saunders the present Preacher and Teacher to the separate congregation of Protestant Dissenters in Kettering aforesaid and to all other succeeding Preachers and Teachers of the said Congregation for ever the annual sum of Twenty shillings to be paid on the Feast of Saint Michaell the Archangel."

The testator then charged the payment of the said sum on all his copyhold hereditaments in Kettering (other than his house in Northall in the occupation of Edmond Roughton and the half yard land he purchased of David Kidney) which he had surrendered to the use of his Will.

Subject to the payment of the annual sum of 20s., and also of an annuity of £12 to his wife Elizabeth, the testator gave his copyhold hereditaments (except as aforesaid) to his friends. David Some, of Great Bowden, Gentleman; Joseph Manning, son of Owen Manning, of Orlingbury, Gentleman; and Joseph Buswell, Senr., of Kettering, Sergemaker, and their heirs to the use of his grandson Thos. Richards, son of Thos. Richards, of Kettering, Yeoman, by Elizabeth his late wife, and to the heirs of his body with remainders over.

Probate was granted 15th July. 1732, at Northampton to the Executors therein named.

In 1788, Thomas Richards the grandson having declined for some years to pay the charge, Sergeant Hill, of Rothwell, was consulted, and gave it as his opinion that the rent could be recovered by distress.

The charge seems to have been put right soon after, for in 1805, on the Inclosure of Kettering, the Commissioners awarded Thomas Richards a piece of land in the Nether Field containing 2 acres 3 roods and 14 perches, bounded on the North West and North East by his first allotment, on the South East by the Wellingborough Road, and on the South West by an allotment to George Wallis, "Which said last described allotment is subject to a

yearly rent charge of twenty shillings payable to the Minister of the Great Meeting in Kettering."

The land was sold in 1819 by Thomas Richards, the great Grandson of Samuel Langley, to Rev. John Keen Hall.

The field on the South Eastern portion of which the amount is charged is numbered 68 on the Ordnance Survey Map (Second Edition, 1900), and is now the property of the Kettering Industrial Co-operative Society, Ltd. The payment is duly made and applied every Michaelmas.

Marlow's Charity.

Mary Marlowe, of the Borough of Leominster, Co. Hereford, Spinster, who died on 9th December, 1778, by her will, dated the 18th January, 1777, gave to several Trustees therein named and such other persons as should be thereafter nominated Trustees, £6,900 reduced 3 per cent. Bank Annuities on trust to apply the dividends of £150, part of the said £6,900 Annuities, "toward the support and maintenance of the Minister or Teacher for the time being of the Congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Particular Baptists at Kettering in the County of Northampton for so long time as such Congregation shall exist or continue in being."

And upon further trust to pay the dividends of £50, other part of the said £6,900 Annuities, "to the Minister or Teacher and Deacons for the time being of the aforesaid Congregation of Protestant Dissenters of Particular Baptists at Kettering aforesaid . . . to be by the said Minister or Teacher and Deacons for the time being from time to time and all times hereafter at their discretion distributed amongst the poor members of the said Congregation for so long a time as such Congregation shall exist or continue in being."

The will contains very much the same directions for the appointment of Country and London Trustees as the will of Mrs. Seward (which see). Indeed, it looks as if that will had been taken as a precedent. All new Trustees were to be Baptist Ministers.

The Baptist Church Book has the following paragraph as to this Charity:—

"During this period there died a Mrs. Marlow a wealthy lady of the Baptist denomination a member of the Church at Leominster in Herefordshire. She left a number of legacies to Baptist Churches. She had been a great admirer of Dr. Gill and it seems out of respect to his memory left the annual interest of £200 in the Stocks to the Baptist Church at Kettering of which he was . . . originally a member. Of the above £200—£150 was designed for the Minister and £50 for the poor. At the time that Mrs. M. made her will it was well known she was possessed of more property than her bequests amounted to: but however it was, she had a relation who lived with her some years before she died and at her death she was was not possessed of property sufficient for the trustees to execute her will. Add to this one of her relatives disputed the will—on which account the money was obliged to be put into Chancery, where it was kept for 3 or 4 years. At length in 1787 it was finished and the whole amount of our share was fixed for £1 8s. 0d. a year viz £1 1s. 0d. for the Minister and 7s. for the poor. This we have now twice received of the Revd. Mr. Reynolds of London who is one of the trustees."

The capital is invested in Consols, and the amount now paid by the Trustees of this Charity is £1 3s. 2d. per annum: 17s. 4d. for the Minister and 5s. 10d. for the poor. It is forwarded by Rev. W. W. Sidey, of Chapel House, Tottenham.

The will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 13 March, 1779, by John Gill, of Gracechurch Street, Gent.; Richard Hall, near London Bridge, Hosier; and Joseph Myke of Leominster, Clothier, the executors.

Mrs. McGrouther's Charity.

Many years ago Mrs. Mary Hogg, the widow of Rev. James Hogg, formerly master of the Kettering School, and later Vicar of Geddington, established a Charity for the relief of aged

Widows and Single Women of good character among the poor of the Congregation of the Church of England at Kettering, which Charity was for a considerable period supported by voluntary contributions.

The collection of the subscriptions and the management of the Charity was, on Mrs. Hogg giving it up, undertaken first by her daughter, Mrs. Nettleship, and then by Mrs. Sophia Lamb, and became known as "The Kettering Poor Widows' Fund."

In 1872 Mrs. Sophia Susan McGrouther, of Streatham, Widow, a daughter of Mrs. Hogg, being desirous of putting the Charity on a better basis, and as a memorial of her late mother, by deed dated the 29th May, 1872, and made between Herself of the one part and The Rev. Henry Lindsay, rector of Kettering, and George Warren Lamb, of Kettering, Gentleman, of the other part, she having purchased the sum of £300 3 per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities in the joint names of Messrs. Lindsay and Lamb, declared that they and the survivor of them, and the executors and administrators of such survivor, should stand possessed of the said sum Upon trust either to continue the same in its then state of investment or to call in and convert the same into money and to lay out and invest the money arising thereby in the Parliamentary Stocks or Public Funds of Great Britain or at interest upon Government or real security, or upon any other security which then was or thereafter might be authorised by law as an investment of trust monies to be from time to time altered and varied for or into other stocks, funds, or securities of a like nature as often as the Trustees or Trustee for the time being should think fit And upon trust to pay the annual produce of the trust sum unto the said Sophia Lamb so long as she should continue to manage the funds of the Charity, and afterwards to the person who should for the time being undertake the management and distribution of the same, such person to be from time to time nominated by the Trustees or Trustee for the time being The said annual produce to be applied by the

person for the time being having the management and distribution of the funds of the said Charity in such manner as the subscriptions to the said Charity had thitherto been applied and appropriated, and so far as could be in conformity with the rules contained in the Schedule to those presents.

And in the deed were provisoes that the receipt of the person having the management of the funds of the Charity should be a sufficient discharge to the Trustees; that after the decease or resignation of the said Sophia Lamb the person having the management of the funds should render the Trustees a statement of account every January; that it should be lawful for the Trustees to employ the trust funds in the purchase of freehold lands in England or of a perpetual annuity charged on freehold or copyhold lands in England, and to resell the same; that the Rector of Kettering for the time being should always be (ex-officio) one of the Trustees; that the Rector for the time being should also have the power of appointing a fresh Trustee in the place of a Trustee dying or desiring to be discharged or refusing or becoming incapable to act.

The Schedule to the deed contains the following rules:—

Rule 1. The Women eligible as recipients of the Charity shall be poor Widows or single Women of good character not under 50 years of age belonging to the Congregation of the Church of England in Kettering.

Rule 2. Each Poor Woman shall receive one shilling a month or more in proportion to the state of the fund and the exigency of the case at the discretion of the Manager of the Charity.

Rule 3. A subscriber of £1 or more shall be entitled to recommend one woman. Two subscribers of 10s. each shall be entitled to recommend one woman jointly.

Rule 4. In case of the removal of any poor woman by death or otherwise the subscriber or subscribers whose pensioner she has been shall be requested to recommend another in her place.

Rule 5. Subject to rule 4 the person for the time being having the management and dis-

tribution of the charity shall select recipients of its Funds and fill up vacancies.

The deed was duly executed by all the parties thereto.

The trust funds now consist of £300 2½ per cent. Consols derived from Mrs. McGrouther's benefaction and £500 Queensland 4 per cent. Bonds bequeathed by Mr. James Gibbon, as mentioned elsewhere, and the dividends are duly distributed by Miss Jane Agnes Lamb, the present Manager, in accordance with the trusts declared by the deed. The present Trustees are Rev. P. M. Smythe and Mr. G. W. Lamb.

John Meadows.

By his Will, dated the 7th August, 1797, John Meadows, of Kettering, Gentleman, bequeathed to his good friends Nathaniel Collis, Ephraim Buswell the Elder, and Thomas Nunneley the Elder, all of Kettering, the sum of £50, in trust, to place the same out at interest on some good and sufficient security, and to pay the interest to arise therefrom "in aid of the Annual subscriptions made by the Church and Congregation of Protestant Dissenters usually meeting for Public Worship in that Meeting House in Kettering aforesaid called the Great Meeting House for the support of the Ministry Repairs and other charges in and concerning the said Meeting House." And the Testator directed that an account of the trust money and interest should be entered in the Book of Accounts of Subscriptions and Expences there and examined and signed by the Subscribers when the annual accounts were examined and signed. The Testator went on to provide that whenever any one of his Trustees should die or refuse to act, or be incapable of acting, which refusal or incapacability should be determined by the majority of the Deacons and Trustees for the time being of the said Meeting, who should signify such their determination in writing to the other two Trustees, and make an entry of the same in the aforesaid Book of Accounts, then his two surviving or other

Trustees should within six calendar months after such notice in writing as aforesaid choose one other person out of the Deacons or Trustees for the time being of the said Meeting to act in the stead of such deceased refusing or incapable trustee, and in default of such appointment within the time aforesaid the Testator directed the said Deacons and Trustees, or the major part of them, to choose one person from among themselves to act And the Testator further directed that whenever any person should be chosen a Trustee in manner aforesaid it should be entered in the said Meeting-house Book of Accounts.

Mr. Meadows died 18th July, 1799, and his will was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Northampton on 27th November, 1799, by Luke Nunneley, of Pytchley Lodge, power being reserved to make a like grant to Thomas Northcote Toller, the other Executor named in the Will.

The sum is now lent on mortgage security.

Mary Mee.

Miss Mary Mee, of Kettering, by her will, dated 3rd August, 1825, gave unto the Deacons for the time being of the Independent Meeting at Kettering the sum of Nineteen pounds nineteen shillings, the same to be placed out at interest in their names, and such interest to be annually applied by them in the purchase of cheap copies of Doddridge's Rise and Progress of Religion, and such copies to be from time to time distributed by them to such person or persons as they might think proper.

The Will was proved on the 24th July, 1826, at Northampton, by Testatrix's brother, Thos. Mee, of Kettering, Farmer; Samuel Munn, of Kettering, Gentleman; and Geo. Issitt, of the same place, Brushmaker.

The £19 19s. 0d. is lent on mortgage security, and the proceeds are applied in the purchase of hymn and other books.

Joseph Nunneley's Charity.

By his Will, dated 5th November, 1768, Joseph Nunneley, of Kettering, Maltster, gave to his Executors, his son, Thomas Nunneley, and his son in law, John Perrin, £100 to be put out at interest, and the interest applied at the times and for the uses following for ever, that was to say That £1 10s. 0d. of the interest should be paid yearly towards the Rev. Mr. Boyce's salary and his successor and successors in the Ministry in the Great Meetinghouse in Kettering That in January yearly and in every year the sum of 20s. should be paid out to buy meat and given to the honest and industrious poor in Kettering That the other remaining 30s. of the said interest should be given yearly by his executors, with the assistance and advice of the Deacons of the Church at the Great Meetinghouse, the one half of the said sum of 30s. to the poor members and the other half to the poor hearers there And the Testator directed that after the decease of his Executors the said sum of £100 should be paid into the hands of the Deacons of the said Church for the time being and their successors, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Boyce and his successors In trust, however, for the use and uses particularly above mentioned.

His will was proved at Northampton on 16th August, 1769, by the Executors therein named

Mr. Nunneley died on 26th July, 1769, and the £100 was paid to the Deacons as directed about 1801. It is now lent on mortgage with other moneys.

Pettifer's Dole.

John Pettifer gave an annuity of 20s. secured upon a shop and chamber in Rotten Row (the row of shops on the Market Hill pulled down between 1785 and 1789), and also, says Bridges, the rent of Emmerton's Holm to put out apprentices. With regard to the rent just named vide Emmerton's or Ladd's Holme Charity ante.

As to the annunity there is the following entry in the Parish Book, which shows how it was disposed of:—

"1787 February 14 At a Vestry this day held a Proposal was made by Mr. Nathaniel Collis to pay the sum of Twenty Pounds into the hands of the Minister Churchwardens and Overseers of this Parish to be by them applied towards the Expence of inclosing Hunt's Charity Estate in Broughton in discharge of an annuity of 20s. payable to the Overseers of Kettering for the use of the Poor of the said Parish and issuing out of a Tenement called Pettifer's Shop and Chamber over it late standing in the Rotten Row but now pulled down and given by the will of John Pettifer. Agreed to accept the said proposal and ordered that the Rector Churchwardens and Overseers on behalf of themselves and their successors do and they are hereby authorised to receive the said sum of Twenty Pounds and to release discharge or otherwise indemnify the said Mr. Collis from and against all further payments claims or demands in respect of the said annuity."

Poor's Allotment.

On the 4th June, 1804, Mr. Thomas Gotch, just before the Kettering Inclosure, claimed on behalf of the poor inhabitants of Kettering all the brakes, furze, ling, and heath, which should be yearly coming and growing, and increasing, in and upon a certain parcel of ground called the Links, in the Lordship of Kettering.

The Commissioners recognised the claim, and awarded "Unto and for Thomas Gotch In trust for the poor Inhabitants of Kettering aforesaid All that piece or allotment of land situate on the Links containing 9a 1r 7p Bounded on the North West by allotments to John Mee and George Hill respectively on the North by the Lordship of Rowell on the East and South East by an Allotment to the said Rector on the South by the Market Harborough Road and the same allotment to the said John Mee and on the West by the same allotment hereby made

to the said George Hill The fences of this allotment are next to the Lordship of Rowell the said Rector Market Harborough Road and on the South West next John Mee Which said last described allotment of land together with an allotment of land containing 1a 1r 20p deducted therefrom therein awarded at the request and consent of the said Trustee to Thomas Marshall* is in the judgment of us the said Commissioners in lieu of and full satisfaction and compensation for the rights and interests of the said poor inhabitants in the lands directed to be divided and inclosed as aforesaid."

The ironstone under the land was sold, and as a result there is a sum of £847 16s. 4d. in Consols, producing an income of £21 3s. 8d., and also a sum of £220 on deposit at the bank.

The land itself is now let in allotments, and produces a rental of about £15 per annum.

The income is applied mainly in the purchase of coal, which is distributed by arrangement with the Relief Committee, but grants are also made to the Local Nursing Committee.

Martha Richards' Gift.

By her will, dated 28th December, 1741, Martha Richards†, the second wife of Thomas Richards, of Kettering, gave £20 towards the support of the Minister of the Congregation in Kettering over which the then late Rev. Thos. Saunders was Minister, the said sum to be put out by her Executor, her husband, and proper security given for it, so that the yearly interest of it should be duly paid to the Minister for the time being.

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* The 1a. 1r. 20p. allotted to Thos. Marshall was in the Nether Field, bounded on the North West by the Wellingborough Road, and was so allotted in consideration of his having paid £50 for the expenses attending the Inclosure, which were chargeable on the Allotment to the Poor.

† Sister of Mr. Belcher and an Aunt of Mrs. Beeby Wallis.

The £20 was expended in the purchase of a messuage on the West side of the Meeting House, to which Joseph Roberts, Cordwainer; Samuel Wallis, Dyer; and Joseph Nunneley, Malster, all of Kettering, were admitted tenants on 25th October, 1742, upon trust to keep the messuage in repair; to let the same; and to pay the income thereof to the Minister for the time being of the Great Meeting.

The house was burnt down in 1751, through Barlow, the tenant, putting ashes and embers in a tub in his little barn, and was not rebuilt. Its site was then partly utilised for making a passage to the Meeting Yard at the end of the Vestry, and partly for purposes of an exchange, whereby the Burying Ground was enlarged.

A vestry was erected on its site in 1810.

George Satchell.

By his Will George Satchell, of Kettering, who died on 22nd April, 1835, gave to the Deacons for the time being of the Great meeting in Kettering the sum of £20, the interest thereof annually to be applied in aid and for the same purposes as a legacy of the same amount given by the Will of the late Mr. Nunneley, namely, in distributing Meat at Christmas to the poor in Kettering.

The money is invested with other sums.

Rachel Sawyer's Charity.

By her will dated 21st August, 1680, Rachel Sawyer, of Kettering, spinster, made the following bequest:—"I give and bequeath to the poor of Kettering £100 the same to be put out and the interest thereof to be imployed towards the binding out of apprentices."

Of this will she appointed Edmond Sawyer, her father, executor, and Mr. Ekins, of Orlingbury, and Mr. John Maydwell, of Kettering, overseers. The registers contain an entry of her burial on the 29th August, 1680, and probate of her will was granted by the Prerogative

Court of Canterbury on 1st November, 1680, to her father.

A little later there is the following entry as to this charity in the Old Parish Book:—

"In the year 1680 Madam Rachell Sawyer gave one hundred pounds to ye towne of Kettering wch is now in ye hands of John Ayre who hath given security by half a yard land wch surrender is in ye hands of Abraham Sparrow senr. Mr. Jno. Maydwell senr. and Mr. Alexander Ekins of Orlingbury are trustees to see yt it be imployed to ye use hereafter mentioned viz., ye interest is to be payed into ye hands of ye Overseers of ye poore for ye putting out poore Children apprentices and for noe other use, ye Interest is payable every halfe yeare from ye second day of May in ye yeare of Our Lord 1682."

No trace of the £100 was found on the Court Rolls when the Committee of 1816 inquired of the stewards as to it, and how all the principal was disposed of does not appear, but it seems to have passed into the hands of the overseers, and interest was paid by them thereon out of their levies till 1767, when the interest ceased.

It would seem that part of the £100 was applied towards the purchase of the Old Workhouse, as on 16th December, 1717, Henry Sawyer stated, in reply to queries sent him, that although he approved of the inhabitants setting up a workhouse, he thought the promoters of the scheme could not charge tho poor's land, but only borrow money at interest, and "as he had Forty Pounds in his hands left by Mrs. Rachel Sawyer he would pay the same with Interest." By the 3rd February following it appeared that Mrs. Rachel Sawyer's £40 with the interest had been accepted, "and the part of £10 Francis Baker had received of Rachel Sawyer by the hand of Mr. Nelson."

The Committee of 1816 held that "the payment of the interest should not have been discontinued without some reason being assigned," and the Commissioners of 1830 considered that the payment of the interest should be resumed, but no payment was made, and the charity must be considered as non-existent.

Sawyer's Hospital.

This Hospital or Almshouse at the top of the Station-road, Kettering, contains apartments for six poor people, and has a small piece of garden in front.

The coat of arts and crest on it are those of the Sawyers, and were granted to Edmund Sawyer, of Kettering, by Will Camden Clar. on the 8th May, 1604. The arms appear to be: Lozengy or and azure on a pale gules three escallops of the first. The crest is: A popinjay's head erazed vert above a mural crown gules.

The inscription on the stone beneath is: "This Hospitall was Built by Edmund Sawyer Esqr Anno Dmni 1688."

The Edmund Sawyer who thus founded the Hospital was a merchant at Aleppo. He made his will on 12th December, 1687, on board the "Asia," a vessel in which he had an interest, but died prior to the 24th January following. By this will, after giving his brother Henry £300 to be paid out of his estate, he made the following bequests:—"To my sister Joyce Sawyer £600 to bee paid in some nature towards building an Hospitall or house for the poor in Kettering I give £100 and £100 more to be distributed amongst the poor." The wording is a little involved owing to lack of punctuation, but presumably the bequest was of £100, and not £600 as at first sight might appear.

The Hospital was no doubt built by the family in accordance with the desire expressed in the will, and so far as is known the next reference to it is one which occurs in the Conditions of Sale of the Manor House property, which was put up for sale at the South Sea House on 4th December, 1723. The paragraph is as follows:—"There is likewise an Hospital built upon the waste for six old Women, which is kept in repair at the Charge of the said Estate; and the Proprietor of the said Estate has the power to place therein whom he pleases."

The Estate was purchased by John Duke of Montagu, but the assurance to him does not

appear to contain any reference to the Hospital at all.

The building had originally a thatched roof, and a drawing of it as it then appeared is to be found in Dash's Copy of Bridges Northamptonshire at the British Museum.

In the Commissioners' Report of 1830 it was stated that no writings could be found relating to the foundation or endowment of the Hospital. It was also there stated that the Duke of Buccleuch acted as patron, and nominated the six alms people, who were usually poor widows or aged persons of Kettering or the neighbourhood, and that they received in equal shares the yearly sum of £6 paid as a rent-charge out of the Duke's Estates, near Kettering.

This sum was many years since increased to £14 per annum, and at the Inquiry held at Kettering in 1893 the Duke's Agent, Mr. Bromhall, said he had traced the increased payment since 1872. The Agent further said that the Duke was in the habit of giving coal to the amount of about 30s. to the inmates yearly, and dinner on the occasion of the half-yearly audits. The Duke had, too, he added, maintained the premises inside and out.

Besides the sums and donations mentioned above, the inmates receive sums under the Charities of Mrs. Martha Baker and Mr. James Gibbon (which see), the result being that the occupants, apart from the dinners and coal given, have some £40 per annum divided between them during every year.

Seward's Charity.

By her Will, dated the 2nd June, 1753, Elizabeth Seward, of Bengworth, in the County of Worcester, Widow, gave and bequeathed unto her friends, Jacob More, of Bengworth; Nathaniel Overbury, of Tetbury, in the County of Gloucester; John Overbury, of Aulcester, in the County of Warwick; Philip Jones, of

Upton-upon-Severn, in the County of Worcester; Benjamin Bedham, of Bolton-of-the-Water, in the County of Gloucester; Doctor John Gill, of Horsley Down, in the Parish of Saint John, Southwark, in the County of Surrey; and William Anderson, of Grafton Street, in the Parish of Saint Ann, Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, all Ministers and Teachers of Congregations of Protestant Dissenters of the Denomination of Particular Baptists, among other sums, her £2,000 New South Sea Annuities to have and to hold to the said Jacob More, Nathaniel Overbury, John Overbury, Philip Jones, Benjamin Bedham, John Gill, and William Anderson, and to the said other Trustees as should be appointed by virtue of that her Will, for ever, Upon the trusts and to and for the intents and purposes thereinafter mentioned and declared, touching and concerning the same (that is to say) Upon trust that her said Trustees should from time to time, and at all times thereafter, pay and apply and dispose of the yearly dividends of her said South Sea Annuities in manner thereinafter declared (that was to say) Upon trust that her said Trustees should from time to time pay the Interest Dividends or yearly produce of the sum of £400 South Sea Annuities, part of her said South Sea Annuities, as the same should be received, to Mr. State the Elder, of Evesham, for and during his natural life, and after his death the will of the Testatrix was that the interest dividends or yearly produce of the said last mentioned £400 South Sea Annuities should be from time to time, as the same should be received, paid to the Ministers, Teachers, or Pastors, or Deacons of the four Congregations of Protestant Dissenters of Particular Baptists thereinafter mentioned (that was to say) of Bolton-of-the-Water aforesaid, of Aulcester aforesaid, of Leicester, and of Ketherine, in the County of Northampton, to be by them applied for the relief of the Poor of the same Congregations.

And the Testatrix directed that the surviving Trustees for the time being should appoint fit and proper persons to be Trustees in the place of deceased Trustees; that in the place of a

Trustee who resided in the country dying a new Trustee who dwelt in the country should be appointed; and that in the place of a Trustee who resided in London or Westminster, or the suburbs thereof, dying, a new Trustee who resided in London or Westminster, or the suburbs, should be appointed.

And the Testatrix directed that all such new Trustees so to be chosen should be Ministers or Teachers of Congregations of Protestant Dissenters of Particular Baptists.

The Testatrix appointed her sons-in-law, William Snooke and Richard Hall, executors of the Will, which was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 7th February, 1754.

A printed copy of the Will, dated 1754, is amongst the Baptist Church records, and the foregoing is taken from it.

In the time of the Rev. Andrew Fuller (1783—1815) the amount paid to the Baptist Church at Kettering by the Rev. Dr. Reynolds, of London, one of the then Trustees, was £3 per annum, which was distributed amongst the necessitous poor in the cold season of winter.

The capital is invested in Consols, and the sum now received is £3 1s. 10d. It is paid by the Rev. W. W. Sidey, Chapel House, Tottenham.

John Wakelin's Charity.

John Wakelin, of Cranford St. John, Farmer, who died in 1792, by his will, dated 20th November, 1789, made the following bequest:—

"I give and bequeath unto Mr. Nathaniel Collis of Kettering in the County of Northampton Stationer Ephraim Buswell of Kettering aforesaid Gentleman and Thomas Nunneley of Kettering aforesaid Farmer the present Deacons of the Separate Congregation of Protestant Dissenters in Kettering aforesaid the sum of £40 of lawfull Money of Great Britain In trust nevertheless that they the said N. Collis E. Buswell and Thos. Nunneley or the survivor of them or the executors administrators or

assigns of such survivor or the Deacons of the said Separate Congregation for the time being shall and do place out the said sum of £40 at interest on such securities as they shall approve and from time to time keep and continue the same placed out and at interest and pay and apply the Interest or produce thereof for or towards the Support and Maintenance of the Minister Preacher or Lecturer of such seperate Congregation for the time being for ever."

The will was proved at Northampton on the 12th January, 1793, by Eliz. Saunders, Testator's cousin, and sole executrix.

The amount is now with other moneys lent on Mortgage.

Mrs. Beeby Wallis's Charity.

By her will, dated the 6th September, 1812, Mrs. Martha Wallis, the widow of Beeby Wallis, of Kettering, made the following bequest, viz.:—

"I give and bequeath to the said John Satchell, John Cooper Gotch of Kettering Banker George Wallis of Wellingborough Mill Miller the said Thomas Collier the Younger and the said Gill Timms their executors administrators and assigns the sum of £400 upon the trusts nevertheless and for the intents and purposes hereinafter mentioned That is to say upon trust with the consent or by the direction of the Ministers and Deacons for the time being of the Particular Baptist Congregation in Kettering aforesaid now under the care of the said Rev. Andrew Fuller to place the same out at interest upon Government Securities or upon good personal security or securities and to vary and transpose the same as often as occasion shall require or shall be thought fit And upon further trust out of the interest or dividends of the said funds or securities to pay to the Minister for the time being of the Particular Baptist Congregation at Kettering aforesaid for preaching the Gospel occasionally in the neighbouring villages the yearly sum of £2 10s. 0d. And upon trust

out of the said interest or dividends To lay out in Bibles and Hymn Books to be distributed amongst the Poor of the said Congregation in such manner as the Minister and Deacons of the said Congregation for the time being shall think fit the like further sum of £2 10s. 0d. And upon further trust out of the said interest or dividends To distribute amongst the poor of the said Congregation in such manner as the said Minister and Deacons shall think fit and shall direct the yearly sum of £5 0s. 0d. And upon further trust out of the said interest or dividends To lay out in the repairing of the Meeting House and and Ministers Dwelling House and in the insuring of the same from fire in such manner as the said Minister and Deacons shall think fit and shall direct the yearly sum of £4 10s. 0d. And upon further trust to pay the said Minister for the time being of the said Congregation the residue of the interest or dividends of the said sum of £400 which shall remain after deducting the several yearly sums of £2 10s. 0d., £2 10s. 0d., £5, and £4 10s. 0d. aforesaid as the last year's interest or dividends shall be received."

Mrs. Wallis died on the 17th October, 1812, and her will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 6th May, 1813, by the Rev. Andrew Fuller and Messrs. John Satchell and Edward Martin, the executors therein named.

The bequest was in February, 1897, represented by Consols, which were then sold, and the proceeds, £455 1s. 0d., are now lent on a security authorised by the trust, and interest at the rate of £4 per cent. is paid thereon.

Matthew Wilson.

By his Will, Matthew Wilson, of Kettering, gave to the Deacons for the time being of the Great or Independent Meeting in Kettering, of which the Rev. Thos. Toller was the then Minister, the sum of £600 in trust as to £500 to invest the same in or upon any of the Stocks or Government Funds of Great Britain, or on

good real security, and pay the interest, dividends, and yearly proceeds thereof unto the Minister for the time being of the said Independent Meeting for ever And as to the residue of the said sum of £600 upon trust to pay, apply, and distribute the same for the use and benefit of the Poor of the said Independent Congregation at such times and in such manner as to them, the said Deacons, should seem best during the Winter immediately after his decease.

The date of the gift is unknown, but it was possibly about 1830. The money is, with others, invested on Mortgage.

Joseph Wright's Charity.

Joseph Wright, of Kettering, Sergemaker, by his will, dated the 29th October, 1745, and whereof his wife Hannah was Executrix, gave to his friends, Jos. Roberts, Jos. Nunneley, Samuel Wallis, and Robert Coleman, all of Kettering, and to the survivor of them, and the executors or administrators of such survivor of them, the sum of £30 Upon trust that it should be placed out at interest upon such security as they should think proper, and the interest thereof paid, after all necessary charges should be thereout first taken, for the use and behoof of the Reverend Mr. Benjamin Boyce, the then Minister at the Great Meeting House, by half-yearly payments if the same could be got in for that purpose, or otherwise as soon after as the same could be got in, and after his decease or removal to and for the use and behoof of his successors officiating there as abovesaid for ever.

He died at Kettering on 31st October, 1745, and his Will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 2nd January following.

On 20th January, 1809, the amount was, with the sums left by Messrs. Nunneley, Meadows, and Buswell, lent to J. and T. Dainty, of Geddington, and is now, with other moneys, lent on mortgage.

Joseph Wright.

Joseph Wright, of Kettering, Farmer and Grazier, who died on the 6th July, 1831, by his will, dated 16th August, 1828, after giving to the Library or Book Society of the Great Meeting the Evangelical Magazine from its commencement, to the Benevolent Society there £10, and to the Provident Society for the relief of aged and afflicted Ministers of the Independent Denomination in the County of Northampton £10 10s. 0d., gave to the Deacons for the time being of the Great Meeting of Kettering the sum of £50 upon trust to invest the same in the Public Stocks or Funds, and to pay and apply the dividends and income thereof for the general purposes of the said Meeting, in such manner as they should think fit. The Testator then gave £50 upon trust that the interest thereon should go in aid of a Public Lecture by an Independent Minister at Great Oakley.

The Will was proved at London on 2nd July, 1834, by Edward Bates, one of the surviving executors, power being reserved for John Carrington to take out a grant. The Testator's wife, Ann, who was an executrix, was then dead.

The principal is invested, with other moneys, and duly applied.

Wymond's Charity.

During his lifetime John Wymond, of Kettering, Sergemaker, deposited with Lewis Clarke, of Kettering, Sergemaker, who was a relative, and lived in "Newland," a sum of £80, in the confidence that he would apply the interest thereon towards the support of such person and persons who for the time being in Quality of a Pastor, Preacher, or Teacher, should preach the word of God and administer all divine Ordinances to that Congregation of Protestant Dissenters from the Established Church of England, who usually assembled themselves together for the Worship of God

in Kettering aforesaid, and to whom Mr. Robert Hanwell was then Pastor, Preacher, or Teacher. And in the event of the Congregation being dissolved or suppressed, in the further trust that £40 should be retained by Lewis Clarke for his own use, and that the other £40 should be paid to John Wymond, of Kettering, Sergemaker, the nephew of the donor.

John Wymond, the donor, died on 3rd February, 1727, and for several years after his death Lewis Clarke paid £4 a year by way of interest. About 1730 it was arranged for L. Clarke to pay J. Wymond, the nephew, £40 upon his giving as security for the due appropriation of the interest two cottages in Northall, Kettering, theretofore the inheritance of Samuel Wymond, the father of John Wymond, and a deed setting out the trust and the foregoing arrangement was prepared by one Thomas Massey. The document, however, was never executed. Mr. Massey observes as to it Clark "very shamefully broke his promise" to execute it, and "it is with reason feared he meaning to sink this charity money in his own hands."

In 1737 it appeared that Clark was probably "in declining circumstances," and Mr. Massey took Counsel's Opinion as to the position and as to how far the Court of Chancery would assist.

Counsel, Mr. Thomas Owen, on 16th August, 1737, gave it as his opinion that the £80 was not given to such an use as a Court af Equity would deem superstitious, that if it appeared that Clark were in declining circumstances or that ye money was in danger in his hands or that he had misapplyed any part thereof a Court of Equity would on an information, exhibited in the name of the Attorney-General, give proper directions for securing the same, John Wymond being made a party in respect of his contingent interest.

No action, however, appears to have been taken in the matter, and the money was lost.

(THE END.)